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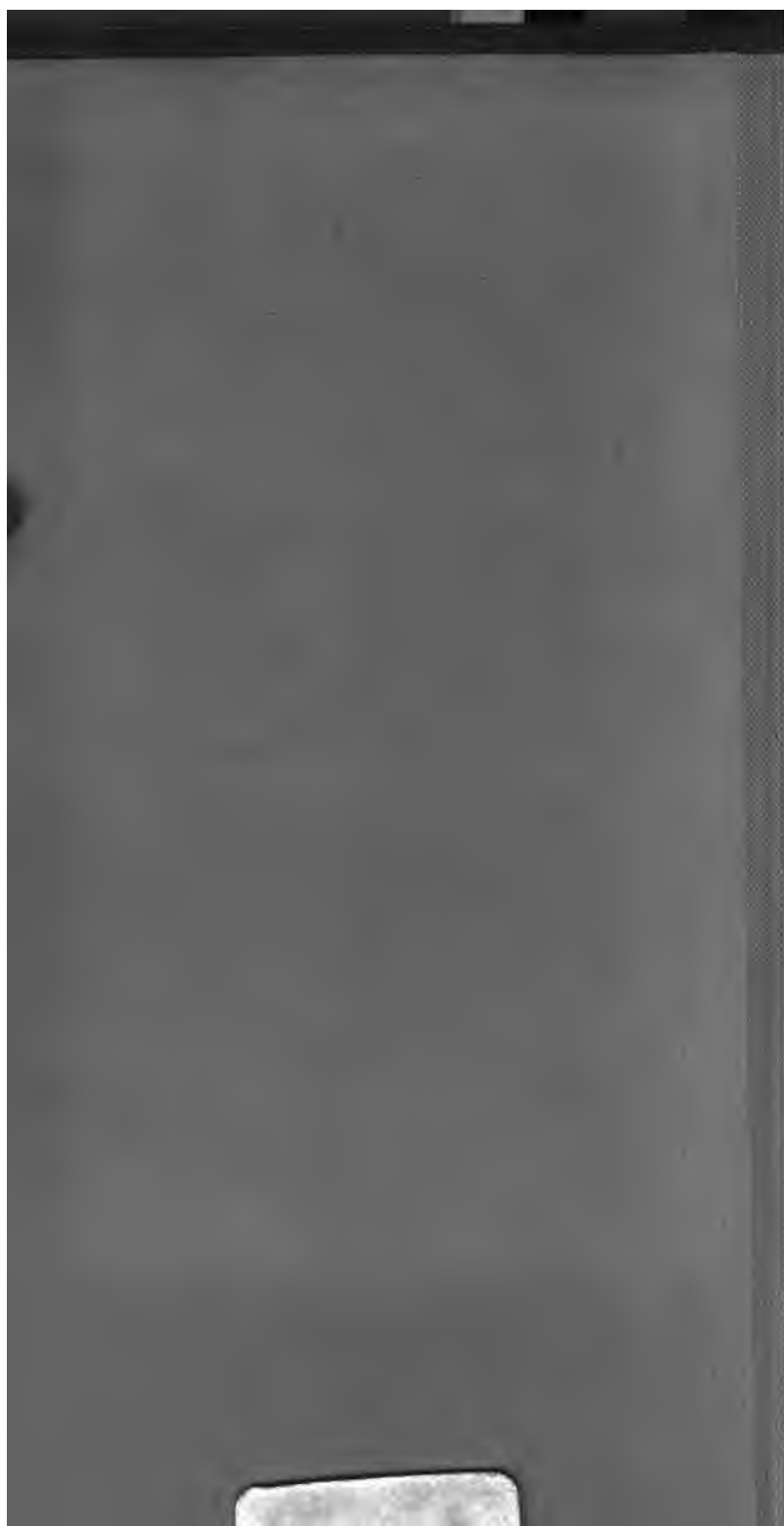
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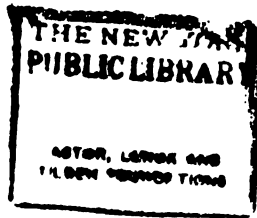
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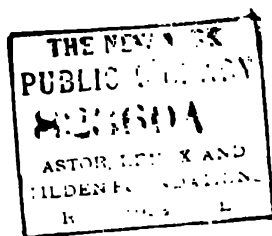
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ROBERT COATES, ESQ. & Co. Makers of Fashion.

At the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, S. W. London. 1794.





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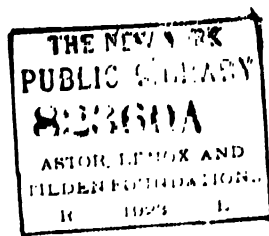
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VOL. V.

LONDON:
R. S. KIRBY, LONDON HOUSE YARD, ST. PAUL'S.

1820.



1924
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1924

KIRBY'S WONDERFUL MUSEUM.

SOME INTERESTING PARTICULARS OF

ROBERT COATES, ESQ.

COMMONLY CALLED THE AMATEUR OF FASHION.

"Here comes Romeo, without his roe."

SHAKESPEARE.

WHEN a man chooses to jump upon a pedestal, and exhibits himself to every passer-by, he must not be surprised if the finger of curiosity be pointed at him, or that mankind will examine with no little sharpness of criticism, his pretensions for becoming a prominent character. Mr. Coates has done this; and while we enter into a correct detail of his merit or demerit, he has only to thank himself, for exciting in us a desire to analyze the true or false medium through which he has arrived at notoriety.

The publications of the day have affirmed that this gentleman is a West Indian; and born in the island of Antigua; that he is the seventh, and only surviving son of nine children; and that his father was born April 16 (old style) 1734, and died Nov. 12, 1807, and that Mr. Coates's parents were people of very high respectability in that part of the world, who during the space of 73 years, had accumulated a large fortune. But we have been told, that this is not altogether correct, Mr. Coates's father being in fact originally a cooper at Donnegal, in Ireland. It is also said, that the Amateur

of Fashion repaired early in life to the West Indies, after learning his father's business, where he commenced the business of cooper, and afterwards became a clerk. At length his uncle died, leaving his fortune to his two nephews, one of whom dying also, left his share to his brother Robert; and this, united with his own, enabled the subject of our memoir to commence gentleman. For this purpose he returned to England, where he had received his early education, and then first repaired to Bath, where he sported the most whimsical curricule that the imagination of man can conceive. It was literally covered with brass cocks; the saddle of the horses (weighing fourteen pounds), as well as the buttons and buckles of the harness, and every ornament that could be turned into a cock, wore the resemblance of that biped; even the buttons on his servants' coats were stamped with a cock; it could not therefore be supposed that a *set out* in this style, could long remain without notice.

Mr. Coates's manners, which partook of, as he supposed, so much the high-bred gentleman, soon brought him into notice: he visited several fashionable parties, and with no little flattery, he fancied himself qualified for the stage. He had for some time obtained the appellation of the Amateur of Fashion, a title that was highly gratifying to him, and firmly believing he deserved it, he attempted to take the lead in every thing new.

Long before Mr. Coates had attained his present celebrity, we were in the habit of being addressed by a person at the theatre, in a criticism on the play then performing; but considering, from his strange manner, that he was under the dominion of insanity, or the workings of the jolly god, we scarce heeded these marginal notes. The peculiar coat, however, which he has had made, on purpose to show his shapes, which he thinks fine, we soon found was the vulgar cover that enrobed the limbs of an Amateur of Fashion,

whom we soon after frequently met, *volunteering* a recitation, or discussing loudly and long on the arts in a picture-gallery.

There is one great and good quality in Mr. Coates; which is, that every attempt that has been made to induce him to gamble, he has treated with contempt: he says, "I have enough, and I mean to spend it myself." An excellent example for many of our young nobles, who might in that case feel, in preserving their estates from a set of sharpers, as much pleasure as Mr. Coates does in being laughed at; for however eccentric he is in his manner, he takes care not to injure his fortune. There is no man on record that has caused so much mirth on the stage, as well as off, since he has indulged the public with his skill. And it is impossible any one can condemn him for the parts he has undertaken, when it is recollected he entered on the task, in the first place, to "*please the ladies*;" and in the next place, he has at times performed to overflowing houses, for the benefit of poor individuals. His first attempt was on February 9th, 1810, at Bath, in the character of Romeo, where he met with much success, and gave universal *satisfaction*. He afterwards performed at Cheltenham; but the critics no more pleased him than he did them; and we next find him at Richmond theatre, under the management of Mr. Beverley, at whose request he performed Romeo and Lothario, to such houses that seldom collect together, unless for the purpose of witnessing the performance of some high theatrical character. His performance seems here to begin to unfold itself in its true colours, and from this time we may reckon his theatrical celebrity. We shall follow him in his theatrical career, and give an account of his performance, in regular succession, as reported in the papers of the day; and if it shall appear that the plaudits he met with, were to ridicule, instead of encouraging his pursuits, his endeavours being honest, he surely deserved a better fate; for

in all his eccentricities, we cannot find one action that would disgrace a gentleman; and although a little energetic at times, in the manner and matter of his visiting the lobby of the Opera-house, or other theatres, yet in his politeness to the ladies he meets, is ever conspicuous, until they mention the *curricule*, or *cock-a-doodle-do*, &c.; he then forgets himself, and his manners begin somewhat to smack of the whip.

By some fatal accident, however, he broke this *curricule* that caused so much mirth and curiosity, and now sports another, made almost in as whimsical a manner: the body is copper, and painted so as to appear like a large kettle-drum hung upon two large serpents; the harness, as before, are studded with cocks, &c. but the large saddles are abandoned. He drives about town with two servants on horse-back, and is very particular in having long-tail'd horses, and causing the servants at all times to keep a most respectful distance. Should any person turn to look after him, particularly the ladies, he will turn immediately, and not leave looking at them until they retire. It was our intention to have presented our readers with a view of the first *curricule* Mr. Coates sported, but we could not get a *correct* sketch, although Mr. Gillray has caricatured him in it; and a Mrs. Aberdeen advertised she had made one of paper, and exhibited it in her Papyrueism, stating she had been offered fifty guineas for the model. This advertisement appeared in the Morning Post, May 1, 1813, in the following words:

“Mr. Coates seems destined to live all the days of his life, or, in other words, to enjoy perpetual notoriety: he exhibits himself on the stage, and the theatre is crammed from the front row of the stage-boxes to the back seat of the one-shilling gallery. Mrs. Aberdeen exhibits his *curricule* in her Papyrueism, and her rooms are crowded almost to suffocation, with the world of taste and fashion. We understand that Mrs. Aberdeen has refused an offer of fifty

guineas, which was made her for this elegant little model of Mr. Coates's fancy, alledging that she could not think of robbing her exhibition of one of its greatest attractions."

A similar advertisement appeared in the York paper, of the exhibition to be seen at York, in the summer of 1814.

This gentleman, by his whims and fancies, has several times been the butt of those who were jealous of the attraction of his dashing appearance and splendid equipage. At the Prince Regent's levee at Carlton-house, July 17, 1812, some one sent him a ticket of admission, in every respect regularly signed and sealed, and to appearance correct: he put himself to a great deal of trouble in dressing out in diamonds, in paste buckles, and ornaments to an extreme; even the buttons on his coat had every appearance of diamonds: he went in a sedan-chair, which he discharged at the gate—but, what could be more mortifying!—when he came to the gate, his ticket passed the first examination, but at the second, it was found to be forged!—he could not be admitted; and to go back, he was ashamed—the mob laughed at the situation he was then in; at last he took courage, begged protection from the mob, and some gentleman lent him his carriage to go back; having returned in a less gay attire, he obtained admission at a gentleman's opposite Carlton-house, and he there had the pleasure of seeing the company go to the levee.

He was imitated in his acting by Mr. Mathews, at Covent-garden theatre, on Friday the 3d of December, 1813, in his favourite character of the gay Lothario. At this imitation the following ludicrous scene was exhibited—It is generally the rule of our Amateur, when acting the part of the gay Lothario, to turn round to some of his friends in the stage-boxes, and to converse and shake hands with them. So did Mathews, and the person with whom he shook hands, was no other than Mr. Coates himself!—the laughter was immoderate, and he seemed to join in the joke with as much pleasure as the best. In this cha-

racter of Lothario, we have given his portrait, it being the most conspicuous we could procure to exhibit his person, and taken at a time when he endeavours to show his rings and buckles to the greatest advantage, which he always does, when he should only be occupied by the dying scene.

Mr. Coates has lodged for some time at a Mrs. Lyall's, in Craven-street, Strand; he lives on the most economical plan; his servants are on board wages, and he keeps his curricule and horses at Kendall's, in Long Acre.

The Amateur of Fashion states, that he has received above a thousand letters from the ladies; but he keeps them unopened—*query*—if he can say they are all love-letters? but we are creditably informed that he has received innumerable letters from indigent persons to perform for them, and he has never failed of obtaining for them an overflowing house; so far at least is his hobby a praiseworthy one.

We have gleaned the following critique from the papers of the day:

*“ Richmond Theatre, Sept. 1811.—*The people of Richmond, and its vicinity for several miles round, including many families of the highest rank and fashion, and great numbers even from London, crowded to Richmond Theatre on Wednesday night, the 4th of September, 1811, to see that celebrated Amateur, Mr. Coates, perform the part of Romeo. While the audience impatiently awaited the rising of the curtain, Mr. Coates's performance was the subject of general and audible conversation, from which it was easy to anticipate that the pathetic tragedy of Romeo and Juliet would, for this time, be one of the most laughable comedies with which merry Old England was ever entertained. At length the hero appeared; clad in a most splendid, and really very beautiful, dress, consisting of yellow and silver tissue, with a large sash of pink and silver, put on in the manner of a Scotch plaid, and a Spanish hat, with a rich plume of ostrich feathers; to these were added a profusion

of rich jewellery, in all the various shapes of collars, buckles, buttons, &c. to the amount, it was said, of several thousand pounds. We are not disposed to be severe on Mr. Coates's performance, which afforded singular amusement; but it is necessary, in order to give a just idea of it, to say, that for some time it was not so much below mediocrity, that it appeared likely to pass off in that flat routine which is neither forcible enough to affect the feeling in the pathetic, nor absurd enough to amuse by provoking the risible faculties. At length a sudden start, or rather frisk and jump, in one of the love speeches, called forth an universal burst, and from that moment the laugh was not discontinued, nor the audience composed for one instant to seriousness for the remainder of the night; and whether Romeo addressed Juliet, or Juliet pronounced the praise of Romeo, laughter convulsed the house, and made it sometimes impossible for the love-sick maid herself (though represented in a very superior manner by a young lady of the name of Watson) to forbear from a smile and a titter, where a sob and a tear would be appropriate, if the tragedy had not been so superlatively comedized, or rather farcified by her lover.

“ Oh Romeo, Romeo, *wherefore* art thou Romeo?”

was harped upon in a very particular manner; but when she spoke of “cutting him up into little stars,” &c. the effect produced was beyond all description. Every one in the house burst by one common and irresistible impulse into a peal of laughter, which shook their frames, the benches, and the house with them: it would be tiresome to notice every successive instance in which this recurred. It was most forcible at the time when the hero forgot his text, and trying back to recover the *cue*, as the prompter calls it, after audibly expressing his doubt and hesitation, by the contradictory monosyllables, no, yes, actually begun over again

the very speech that he had just finished. Again, when he said, "Is it a dream, or am I mad?" the laugh exceeded even its former excess. At length the dying scene came, and was performed amidst unceasing roars of laughter, in which several extraordinary sounds mingled, such as crowing and chuckling like a cock, crying cock-a-doodle-do, &c. till the curtain fell, and here the play closed, the audience vociferously and repeatedly, though ineffectually, demanding, by cries of encore, encore, &c. that the death scene should be re-acted, as it had been on Mr. Coates's former performance of *Romeo* at Cheltenham. Mr. Coates did, however, appear again, and recited, "Bucks have at you all!" in a style somewhat less laughable than his *Romeo*. There were some alterations to suit his own particular case; and an allusion to some of the Cheltenham critics, whom he supposed to have mixed among the Richmond audience, had a very good effect. The audience were at last put into good humour, and they sincerely applauded and called for a repetition of the address. But Mr. Coates not appearing, while the encore was insisted on for a quarter of an hour, the manager, Mr. Boverley, came before the curtain, dressed for the character of the Jew, in the afterpiece of the *Jew and Doctor*; and having obtained silence, a long dialogue ensued: he stated, that Mr. Coates had actually left the house, therefore could not appear to repeat the performance that night, but promised that the same should be repeated another night, which was well received."

We shall now follow the Amateur to his next representation.

"*Haymarket Theatre*.—Monday, December 8, 1811, Mr. Cock-a-doodle Coates (from Exeter 'Change) exhibited himself at this house as the representative of Lothario, in the *Fair Penitent*. Public curiosity was very strongly excited, and every part of the theatre was crowded at an early hour. Nearly the whole of the audience appeared to have been attracted to witness the performance of this

tragedy, by an expectant desire of enjoying a hearty laugh. The fame of the hero of the night caused them to anticipate something preposterously out of the way, and they went to the theatre with a resolution to turn every thing into ridicule.

“ Nothing could be more truly contemptible, or more extravagantly absurd, than the performance of Mr. Coates. His manner was such, that the tragedy called forth much more laughter than is usually heard or seen at the representation of a comedy. Much waggery was played off by a part of the audience. The crowing of a cock was frequently imitated with great success, and the effect of this, in the middle or at the close of an impassioned or pathetic speech, was very fine. Hisses were frequently heard very loud, and after these Mr. Coates was greeted with six or eight rounds of applause. He bore it, apparently, with great *sang froid*, for some time, but at last he lost his temper, and addressed a series of silly speeches to the audience, offering to pay for those who chose to take their money back and go out, and defending the line of conduct which he had pursued, as originating in a benevolent principle, on which he was determined to act. These orations so mortified those who were acting with him, that *Horatio* and *Altamont* left the stage, and Mr. Coates (cock of the walk) had the felicity of entertaining the audience alone. Placed in this situation the hero made a long senseless speech, which the indignation of the audience rendered it impossible to hear in the theatre, but which he has since obligingly given to the world in print. This concluded, he left the stage, snapping his fingers at the audience, and the drop fell as at the close of an act. When the play was resumed, the last scene which they had attempted was begun again, and at length performed in better style than could well be expected, when Mr. Cock-a-doodle Coates was concerned. The mirth and noise of the audience were steady and unremitting through-

out the third and fourth acts. At the close of the fourth, the green curtain fell, and of such importance was Mr. Coates to the audience, that as Lothario was dead, they did not once call for the fifth act, but the hero was loudly called on to die again.

"The Altamont of the night was as ridiculous as Mr. Coates himself; and the appearance and manner of Scioto was so ludicrous, that he was frequently accosted by the good-humoured appellations of *Punch*, *Jack of Clubs*, and *Gaffer Thumb*. Horatio was very ably sustained by Mr. Sydney, who, fixed as the audience were to jeer and quiz all who were to perform, succeeded in rivetting their attention on the business of the scene, where he was concerned, for some time. The Calista of the evening was so much alarmed at the apparent hostility of the audience, that she seemed scarcely able to stand. Lavinia found an excellent representative in the fascinating Miss Sydney.

"No talents, no exertions of two or three individuals, could possibly appease the storm which the absurdities of Messrs. Coates and Williamstone were calculated to awake. Had not his performance given strong indications of good sense, we should have thought Mr. Sydney as mad as Mr. Coates, for so letting himself down. The experience of that day, will, I trust, be of service to him, and when Mr. Coates next undertakes to murder Rowe or Shakspeare, I should hope the name of Sydney will not appear in the list of accomplices."

The next time Mr. Coates became a candidate for histrionic applause at the Haymarket Theatre, was on January 11th, 1813, for the benefit of Mr. Sims; the play was the Fair Penitent, and the grand attraction the Lothario of Mr. R. Coates, whose Romeo, and red curriele with brass harness, have rendered him very justly notorious. The house was completely crammed in a few minutes after the doors were opened, and the per-

formance instantly commenced—for, on this occasion matters were reversed, as compared with other theatres, the most prominent performers being *before* the curtain.—The boxes, pit, and galleries were filled with actors, mutually exerting themselves for the amusement of each other; the galleries were particularly active in *punning* on the name of the “*Amateur of Fashion*,” and continued to call for him as “*Long Coates, Driving Coates, Flannel Coates, Petty Coates, Turn Coates*.” &c. until they were interrupted by a loud crowing of cocks, which was very melodious, and gave a lively idea of a *feeding loft*, on the eve of a grand *Welch main*. At length the histrionic hero appeared, clad in silver and satin, and blazing in jewels, towering in majesty and feathers far above his worthy compeers, and looking as though he bore the whole empire of Thespis on his Atlantean shoulders. On his *entrée* he was greeted, or, as Shakspeare has it, *bruted*, in a manner which we will not attempt to describe, and for similar reasons we will forbear to criticise his acting—we are unable to do so, we have no standard of comparison; for we most solemnly assure Mr. Coates, that though we have seen all the great actors of the present age, we have never seen one that can even for an instant stand in comparison with him. The piece went off very rapidly, and the fourth act did not occupy more than two minutes, including the death of Lothario, which delighted the assembly (for an obvious reason we cannot call it *audience*) so much, that an unanimous *encore* was the consequence. The performer, however, was *dead* to this mark of *favour*, and would not comply, and a noise ensued, which we can only characterise by describing what it surpassed—Billingsgate on Saint James’s day, when delicious oysters first appear, is quiet—a bull frog concert, heard in a South American Savannah, soft music—and an O. P. row absolutely tame, compared with this wild hubbub and strange uproar. The fifth act of the play was over in about three minutes;

and though the interval between the play and farce was rather long, the spectators continued almost as gay and merry as at any time during the tragedy. Between the acts of the farce, Mr. Coates again came forward, and after apologizing for appearing before the *ladies* without *boots and spurs*, spoke some lines about *hobbies*, which, from their extraordinary beauty and classical elegance, we suppose to be his own production. He was particularly happy in the harmony and quantity of his verse, as well as in grammatical precision. Our readers may take this couplet as a specimen of his rhyme—

“Horses which are dull and *stubborn*,
Are as difficult as our wives to *govern*.”

Of Lord Wellington, Mr. Coates said,

“Lord Wellington’s hobby in these bloody wars,
Is breaches, ambuscades, and ugly scars;
In time of peace how chang’d his trade is,
His Lordship’s hobby is then the *ladies*.”

His own hobby he described as

“Acting for widows, driving on high cushions,
And playing for our brave allies—the *Russians*.”

He was loudly encored, and returned, but as appeared in the sequel, not to repeat his address, but merely to give a sage and interesting piece of advice to the ladies, in these words—

“Since I’ve repeated my hobbies through,
Pray, ladies, don’t let the fortune-hunters *jockey* you!”

Mr. Coates then retired amidst a most *tumultuous uproar of approbation*.

Not dismayed with the reception he had gained, he still persisted in not only riding his hobby, but insisting on every body getting up behind him; and having, as we presume, his motto of “While I live I will crow,” warm in his head, he again became the subject of amusement; and on Wednesday, Feb. 24th, 1813, Mr. Coates, “in all his glory re-appeared,”

in the character of the "gallant gay Lothario," in Rowe's tragedy of the Fair Penitent. The performance was, as usual, absurd beyond conception. When he entered on the first act, in the same way that the Ghost in Hamlet makes his exit, with the crowing of the cock, from all parts of the theatre, the actor's voice was scarcely audible at any time, and its sepulchral tone, and the antic gestures that seconded it, when it was heard, rendered his appearance more ludicrous than description can represent it. In the second act, in the altercation between Lothario and Horatio, the latter introduced the following lines, not in the original part :—

"Why drive you thus in state about the town,
With curricule and pair, the crest a cock?"

The audience relished the joke exceedingly, but Mr. Coates started back several paces with indignation, and then advanced in apparent agitation to the front of the stage: he attempted to obtain a hearing, but in vain; he retired towards Horatio, and looked terrific, as if denouncing verigeance.—Horatio next tried to make himself audible, and, unsuccessful, withdrew; thus while the spectators were bursting with laughter, and Mr. Coates was swelling with rage, the two actors by turns made their exit and appearance. At length silence was obtained, and the Amateur spoke as follows :—"Ladies and Gentlemen, I was solicited to play for a lady whom I was informed was an object deserving of my attention." Loud applauses succeeded, and Mr. Coates, in the interval, employed himself in selecting the most engaging attitudes.—He proceeded, "I beg leave to state, that there are several performers in this place who belong to our great theatres, and let me add, that one of them has taken most unwarrantable liberties with me."—This sentence was received with shouts and hisses, and Mr. Coates was busily engaged in brow-beating his enemies in the pit, and in running to one of the stage boxes, where some friends were stationed.—Silence being obtained, he re-

sumed, "You doubtless have read the play of the Fair Penitent, and if not, you may do it to-morrow morning; there you will find something about horses and merriment; but a performer has no right to hurt my feelings, by inserting what is not in his part. Let my equipage be laughed at by those that chuse:—but though my father blest me with a good fortune, he always taught me good manners. I am little skilled in boasting, but I must say, that I feel myself a most useful character; for if my dress be extravagant, and my curriole and equipage be expensive, let it be remembered, it is this that supports the lower orders; does it not assist the taylor, the mercer, and the coach-maker? In these respects I set what I think is a laudable example, that cannot be too soon followed." Mr. Coates here ended, and laughter for some time incapacitated the audience from listening to Horatio, who stood piteously pleading in the front of the stage.

"*Drury-Lane Theatre, April 10, 1813.*—Saturday night, Mr. Coates made his appearance on the stage of Drury-Lane Theatre, to deliver "Bucks have at ye all," and was received with the usual crowing, and boisterous noise of the galleries. When this gentleman comes forward among actors equally grotesque as himself, we laugh at the folly of the whole; but we would ask the Sub-Committee of Management, if they really think that such buffoonery is creditable to the regular drama, or by any means complimentary to a respectable company of performers?

"After the recital of "Bucks have at ye all," he thus addressed the audience:—"Ladies and Gentlemen, having had the honour of being imitated at another theatre, by a performer of great celebrity, I will now, with your permission, imitate the Imitator; if I do not succeed, I hope you will pardon me, as it is my first attempt, (imitating Mr. Matthews), it will be hit or miss." He then retired, and reappeared in the dress worn by Mr. Matthews in the farce of Hit or Miss,

strutted about the stage, cracking his whip, and reciting several passages of that farce, to the great merriment, and amidst the marked ridicule of the whole audience."

"*Opera-House, Saturday, May 1st, 1813*—Mr. Cock-a-doodle Coates came forward, and cut even a more ridiculous figure than he has hitherto sustained, whether it was playing for pretended widows, or disgracing the classic boards of a national theatre. He made several attempts, amid groans, to address the audience, who, much to their credit, would not listen to a line he had to say; and eventually, after a considerable deal of hustling, he was forced from the stage."

And on May 7, 1813, Mr. Coates again occupied the stage as Lothario, and received his usual compliments of every species of disgraceful contempt, engendered by his despicable folly. He was incessantly saluted with hisses, and cries of "off, off," although nothing could exceed the general merriment produced by his acting in the scene where he fences with, and is killed by, Altamont. In this part encore burst from all parts of the theatre; he did not, however, accede to the call. "From the temper displayed last Saturday, (says a cotemporary publication), and the indignant displeasure of the audience, tired beyond endurance with the abominable fooleries of this *soi-disant* Amateur, we hope and trust that this disgrace to a regular theatre will not be suffered much longer to exist: And while acting at the Haymarket Theatre, Tuesday, May 11, 1813, a Bantam cock was thrown on the stage."

Haymarket Theatre, February 22, 1814. — Tuesday—The comedy of the West Indian was murdered last night; the character of Belcour, by Mr. Coates. This person, it will be remembered, (says the Morning Post), "was held to be so inimitably preposterous in tragedy, that he has obtained a spurious celebrity, arising from

his want of common sense, and astonishing lack of ability. The joke is now grown stale; the most splendid stupidity, when it becomes hacknied, will grow insipid. Being interrupted by a person in the pit, he accosted him, "Sir, I wish particularly to address myself to you, as you have insulted me." The usual tumult followed, and he appealed to the audience, telling them, "he came forward for a *purpose of benevolence*, without any *interested motive*, and had been interrupted by a man in the pit." He happened to stammer, while making this statement, new interruption was the consequence, and he was obliged to retire, amidst shouts of contemptuous laughter. He was marked out for the rest of the evening, and imperiously ordered in one of the scenes to take off his hat. Failing to obey, an apology was called for; and he was so hooted in every scene, that he at last came forward, to try his hand, (if we may be allowed the expression) at a speech. He was just enabled to tell them, what they pretty well knew, "That he had been repeatedly called on for an apology;" when the derision of the audience was so loudly expressed, that he was a second time forced to withdraw, without finishing his speech. The whole of the *Dramatis Personæ* were treated with the most outrageous ridicule.—Coates was frequently jeered about Mrs. Lyall—his curricule,—the Carlton House Fête, &c. Every species of discord that fancy could suggest, was eagerly pressed into service, and uproar was every where the order of the night."

Mr. Coates had at length made himself so conspicuous as an actor, that even John Bull became tired of laughing at his absurdities. From critiques and contemptuous sarcasms on his acting, the public began to spread insinuations against his private character. It was rumoured that he received pay for his performance, and that, under the pretence of performing for the benefit of a distressed widow, a person, whose

contributions of theatrical criticism fill the columns of a certain paper, was the real object for which Coates drew a house. As this was a man of more abilities than respectable character, and as he generally spoke in favourable terms of our Amateur's acting, the public became more incensed. They did not scruple saying, that if Mr. Coates did not himself receive worldly pelf for his exertions, there was an understanding between his landlady and himself—she was to receive the fee for an introduction to the great Roscius.—This, however, was not the case—we never believed it; and as if to countenance our opinion, the following advertisement appeared in the papers, Feb. 18, 1814, in consequence of a person, who made himself conspicuous in the pit of the Lyceum, on Wednesday evening, December 1, 1813, while Mr. Coates was acting for a benefit, by holding up a note of 40*l.*, and telling Mr. Coates it passed through his hands, though given for another purpose—

“*London, to wit.*—Martha Lyall, of Craven Street, Strand, having heard it has been represented, that Robert Coates, late of Antigua, Esq. had participated in monies given to this deponent by Mrs. Bury, to induce this deponent to persuade the said Robert Coates to recite, at Freemasons' Hall, at a Concert given for the benefit of Mrs. Bury, certain verses, written for the occasion; and knowing such representation to be untrue, this deponent voluntarily maketh oath, and saith, that her receiving money to persuade the said Robert Coates to recite the last mentioned verses, or publicly to perform, was totally unknown to the said Robert Coates. And this deponent in her conscience believes, that if the said Robert Coates had known that this deponent had received any money from any person whatsoever, for the purpose of inducing the said Robert Coates to perform at any theatre, or to recite verses in any public room, the said Robert Coates would not have consented so to do. And lastly, this deponent positively saith, that the said

Robert Coates never did, in any way whatever, participate in any present given to this deponent, by any persons or person, to influence this deponent in persuading the said Robert Coates to perform; nor did the said Robert Coates ever know of this deponent having received any money from any persons or person, for whose benefit he had consented to play, until he was publicly charged at the Lyceum theatre with participating in money so received by this deponent.

“ M. LYALL.

“ Sworn at the Mansion-house, in the City of London, the 16th day of February 1814, before me,
WM. DOMVILLE, Mayor.”

Having taken up so much of our volume with an account of this extraordinary character, it may now be necessary to draw this article to a close:—but in doing this, we shall first insert the communication of a subscriber, whom we know cannot be biassed by any thing but the truth, and who sent us the following account of Mr. Coates' appearance at the Lyceum.

“ I take upon me to say, that Mr. Coates' appearance as Romeo, for the benefit of Mr. Eyre, was entirely gratuitous on his part; and hearing much of this celebrated character, I took tickets—and with the additional stimulus of being introduced behind the scenes, repaired to the theatre.—Mr. Coates was ready dressed for the part at an early hour, and long before the play began. I had much wished to judge for myself of his acting, but found it impossible—for on the moment he appeared, a sort of O. P. row commenced, and every word he uttered, was lost in the clamour of the many-tongued multitude. Here, however, let me correct myself, the acting was indeed perfectly visible—but this was downright tearing a speech to tatters. Here his folly deprived the public of a rich treat, which was no other than that of seeing Mr.

Dowton play the part of the Nurse ; but Mr. Coates deeming this an insult, declared, that unless the usual actress played the part, he would leave the theatre. At length the proper actress was found, and the play proceeded. Still, however, all was chaos and confusion.—Oranges and halfpence were thrown on the stage ; and even the lovely Juliet was in danger from a vagrant copper. At length, weary with this, some gentlemen, among whom is the communicator of this, gained him a short silence, hoping, that by a modest speech, and his throwing himself on the protection of the house, he might be heard ; but he requited their services with a silly threat, “ of prosecuting all that hissed him,” so that his cause became hopeless. When he attempted to salute his Juliet, the cries of “ off, off,” increased, accompanied with hisses, and a cry of “ don’t let the brute kiss you,” &c. I must, however, do Mr. Coates the justice to declare, that amidst all this clamour, he continued steadily to go through his part, consoling himself with the idea, that “ he would punish them—’t was all envy.” He attended while off the stage, to every arrangement of the stage, necessary to give eclat to the piece, at the end of which the curtain closed—

“ And Chaos came again.”

It is, we believe, an undoubted fact, and much to the honour of Mr. Coates, that he presented to Mr. Kean, soon after his first appearance in Richard III. a gold watch, chain, seals, &c. and thirty guineas, accompanied with a very handsome letter, in which he begs Mr. Kean will do him the honour of accepting them, as a trifling return for the pleasure he has given the donor, by his unrivalled acting.

Of late Mr. Coates has relinquished the sock and buskin, and even his gay curricule is no longer regarded. Some debating society did indeed pretend that he would speak on a theatrical question ; but this, we believe, was not correct ; and we trust, that Mr. Coates, justly resenting the conduct

of *ambitious* performers, has retired from publicity, when we have no doubt, but he will find that the

"Post of honour is the private station."

SINGULAR WILLS :

(EXTRACTS FROM.)

THE WILL OF DAVID DAVIS, LATE OF CLAPHAM, IN SURRY,
PROVED, JANUARY 1788.

I give and bequeath to Mary Davis, daughter of Peter Delaport, the sum of 5*s.* which is sufficient to enable her to get drunk with, for the last time, at my expence; and I give the like sum of 5*s.* to Charles Peter, the son of the said Mary, whom I am reputed to be the father of; but never had, or ever shall have any reason to believe.

IN THE WILL OF JOHN BARKERVILLE, LATE OF BIRMINGHAM,
IN THE COUNTY OF WARWICK. PROVED, MARCH 1775.

My further will and pleasure is, and I hereby declare, that the devise of all my goods and chattels, as above, is upon this express condition: that my wife, in concert with my executors, do cause my body to be buried in a conical building, in my own premises, heretofore used as a mill, which I have lately raised higher, and painted, and in a vault which I have prepared for it. This, doubtless, to many will appear a whim:—Perhaps it is so; but it is a whim for many years resolved on, as I have a hearty contempt of all superstition, the farce of consecrated ground, the Irish barbarism of sure and certain hope, &c. I also consider Revelation, as it is called, (exclusive of the scraps of mo-

rality casually intermixed with it), to be the most impudent abuse of common sense that ever was invented, to be-fool mankind ; I do expect some shrewd remarks will be made on this my declaration, by the ignorant and bigotted, who cannot distinguish between religion and superstition, and are taught to believe morality, (by which I understand all the duties a man owes to God and his fellow-creatures, is not sufficient to entitle him to divine favour), with professing to believe, as they call it, certain absurd doctrines and mysteries, (of which they have no more conceptions or ideas than a horse). This morality alone, I profess to have been my religion, and the rule of my actions, to which I appeal, Now for my profession and practice have been consistent.



IN THE WILL OF STEPHEN CHURCH, LIGHTERMAN, OF ST. MARY AT HILL. PROVED, NOVEMBER 1793.

I give and devise to my son, Daniel Church, only one shilling ; and that is for him to hire a porter to carry away the next badge and frame he steals.



IN THE WILL OF WILLIAM DARLEY, LATE OF ASH, IN THE COUNTY OF HERTS. PROVED, MAY 1794.

I give unto my wife, Mary Darley, for picking my pocket of sixty guineas, and taking up money in my name, of John Pugh, Esq. the sum of one shilling.



THE WILL OF JOHN HEDGES, LATE OF FINCHLEY, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX. PROVED, JULY 1787.

This 25th day of May,
Being mty and gay,
To hip not inclin'd,
But of vigorous mind,

And my body in health,
 I'll dispose of my wealth,
 And of all I am to leave,
 On this side the grave,
 To some one or other,
 I think, to my brother ;
 But, because I foresaw,
 That my brother-in-law,
 If I did not take care,
 Would come in for a share,
 Which I no ways intended,
 Till their manners were mended ;
 And of that, God knows, there's no sign ;
 I therefore enjoin,
 And strictly command,
 As witness my hand,
 That nought I have got,
 Be brought to hotch-pot,
 But I give and devise,
 As much as in me lies,
 To the son of my mother,
 My own dear brother,
 To have and to hold,
 All my silver and gold,
 As the affectionate pledges
 Of his brother,


JOHN HEDGES.

IN THE WILL OF STEPHEN SWAIN, LATE OF THE PARISH OF
 ST. OLAVE, SOUTHWARK. PROVED, FEBRUARY 1770.

I give to John Abbot, and Mary, his wife, the sum of
 sixpence each, to buy for each of them a halter, for fear the
 sheriffs should not be provided.


IN THE WILL OF THE RIGHT HONOURABLE HENRY EARL OF
STAFFORD. PROVED, JULY 1719.

I give to the worst of women, (except being a w-o-e), who is guilty of all ills, the daughter of Mr. Gramont, a Frenchman, who I have unfortunately married, five and forty brass halfpence, which will buy her a pullet for her supper, a greater sum than her father can often make her; for I have known when he had neither money or credit for such a purchase, he being the worst of men, and his wife the worst of women, in all debaucheries:—Had I known their character, I had never married their daughter, nor made myself unhappy.




IN THE WILL OF WILLIAM BLACKETT, ESQ. LATE GOVERNOR
OF PLYMOUTH. PROVED, 1782.

I desire that my body may be kept as long as it may not be offensive, and that one or more of my toes or fingers may be cut off, to secure a certainty of my being dead: I also make this further request to my dear wife, that as she has been troubled with an old fool, she will not think of marrying a second.



IN THE WILL OF CATHARINE WILLIAMS, LATE OF LAMBETH,
IN THE COUNTY OF SURRY. PROVED, JULY 1796.

To Mrs. Elizabeth Paxton, ten pounds, and five pounds a-year, to be paid weekly, by my husband, to take care of my cats and dogs, as long as any of them shall live; and my desire is, that she will take great care of them, neither let them be killed or lost. To my servant boy, George Smith, ten pounds, and my Jack ass, to get his living with, as he is fond of traffic.



IN THE WILL OF CHARLES PARKER, OF NEW BOND-STREET,
IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, BOOKSELLER. PROVED,
MARCH 1785.

I give to Elizabeth Parker, (the sum of fifty pounds),
whom through my foolish fondness, I made my wife,
without regard to family, fame, or fortune; and who, in
return, has not spared, most unjustly, to accuse me of every
crime, regarding human nature, save highway robbery.



THE WILL OF SAMUEL JEBBERY, PURSER OF HIS MAJESTY'S
SHIP AMPHION,

*Considering well, perils, and dangers of the seas, viz. that a
chance shot may kill the devil;*

To my friends, Jack Dalling, Joe Cape, and Tom Board-
man, the sum of 10l. between them, to pay for a good dinner,
which I wish them to have, in remembrance of me, and request
they will drink a speedy and safe passage to me to the other
world. My rings, &c. to my brother William Henry Jef-
fery, to do with them, as his own saucy fancy may direct:
I particularly wish him to get a bit of my hair, (from what
part of me I don't care), to put into a locket; and my
grand request is, that when it shall please God to call me
aloft, that some good fellow will stow my picciolo corpo in-
to my great strong chest:—If I die strait, they will, I know,
have occasion to force me in; but, never mind, I'll pro-
mise not to sing out; and then, after securing it well, to
keep me safe from all intruders, launch me overboard, in
good deep water, with plenty of ballast. And now, as I
have nothing more to give, bequeath, or request, I will
finish, by putting my hand and seal to this, my royal will,
10 o'clock, 10th January, 1810.

Proved, 2d July, 1812, by the oath of William Ely
Cook, Esq. the uncle of the said deceased.



OF THE REV. GEORGE APPLEBY, CLERK, OF BAQUET-COURT,
FLEET-STREET, LONDON.

My body, after being dressed in flannel waistcoats, instead of a shirt, an old surtout coat and breeches, without lining or pockets, an old pair of stockings,—shoes I shall want none, having done with walking, and a worsted wig, if one can be got I desire, may be buried in as plain a manner as possible, wherever my widow shall think proper. The interest of money in the funds, to my dearly beloved wife, for her life, and after that to my son, John Appleby; till which time, I hope he will wait with patience, and be as good to her as he can. Dated 27th July, 1782.

Proved, 7th August, 1783, by the oath of Ann Appleby, widow, the relict of the said deceased.



OF JOSEPH DALBY, OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY-LE-BONE, IN
THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX.

I give to my daughter Ann Spencer, a guinea for a ring, or any other bauble she may like better :—I give to the lout, her husband, one penny, to buy him a lark-whistle; I also give to her said husband, of redoubtable memory, my fart-hole, for a covering for his lark-whistle, to prevent the abrasion of his lips; and this legacy I give him as a mark of my approbation of his prowess and nice honour, in drawing his sword on me, (at my own table), naked and unarmed as I was, and he well fortified with custard. I give to my son, Joseph Dalby, of the Island of Jamaica; one guinea, and to balance accounts with him, I give him forgiveness, and hope the Almighty will give him a better understanding.

Proved, 27th July, 1784, by the oath of Anthony Gill, Esq. the sole executor.



THE FIRST CODICIL TO THE WILL OF NATHANIEL LLOYD, OF
TWICKENHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, ESQ.

What I am going to bequeath,
When this frail part submits to death ;
But still I hope the spark divine,
With its congenial stars shall shine ;
My good Executors-fulfil,
I pray ye, fairly, my last Will,
With first and second Codicil :
And first, I give to dear Lord Hinton,
At Tryford school, not at Winton,
One hundred guineas for a ring,
Or some such memorandum thing ;
And truly, much I should have blundered,
Had I not given another hundred
To Vere, Earl Poulett's second son,
Who dearly loves a little fun :
Unto my nephew, Robert Longden,
Of whom none says he ever has wrong done,
Tho' Civil Law he loves to lash,
I give two hundred pounds in cash :
One hundred pounds to my niece Tudor,
(With loving eyes one Matthew view'd her),
And to her children, just among 'em
A hundred more, and not to wrong 'em,
In equal shares I freely give it,
Not doubting but they will receive it.
To Sally Crouch and Mary Lee,
If they with Lady Poulett be,
Because they would the year did dwell,
In Twickenham House, and served full well,
When Lord and Lady both did stray
Over the hills and far away :

The first, ten pounds ; the other, twenty ;
 And girls, I hope, that will content ye.
 In seventeen hundred sixty-nine,
 This with my hand I write and sign,
 The sixteenth day of fair October,
 In merry mood, but sound and sober ;
 Past my three-score and fifteenth year,
 With spirits gay and conscience clear,
 Joyous and frolicsome, tho' old,
 And like this day, serene, but cold ;
 To foes well-wishing, and to friends most kind,
 In perfect charity with all mankind.
 For what remains, I must desire,
 To use the words of Matthew Prior :
 " Supreme ! All-wise ! eternal Potentate !
 Sole Author ! sole Disposer of my fate !
 Enthroned in light and immortality !
 Whom no man fully sees, and none can see !
 Original of Beings ! Power Divine !
 Since that I think, and that I live, is thine !
 Benign Creator ! let thy plastic Hand
 Dispose of its own effect ! Let thy command
 Restore, Great Father, thy instructed son,
 And in my act, may thy great will be done !"

Proved, with second codicil, 11th April, 1774, by the
 oaths of the Right Honourable Vere, Earl Poulett,
 formerly the Honourable Vere Poulett, and James
 Henckell, Esq. the executors.



OF ELIZABETH ORBY HUNTER, LATE OF UPPER SEYMOUR-
 STREET, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, WIDOW, DECEASED,

I give and bequeath to my beloved parrot, the faithful
 companion of twenty-five years, an annuity for its life, of

two hundred guineas a-year, to be paid half yearly, as long as this beloved parrot lives, to whoever may have the care of it, and proves its identity; but the above annuity to cease on the death of my parrot; and if the person who shall or may have the care of it, should substitute any other parrot in its place, either during its life, or after its death, it is my positive will and desire, that the person or persons so doing, shall refund to my heirs or executors, the sum or sums they may have received from the time they did so; and I empower my heirs and executors to recover it, from whoever could be base enough to do so. And I do give and bequeath to Mrs. Mary Dyer, widow, now dwelling in Park-street, Westminster, my foresaid parrot, with its annuity of two hundred guineas a-year, to be paid her half yearly, as long as it lives; and if Mrs. Mary Dyer should die before my beloved parrot, I will and desire that the aforesaid annuity of two hundred guineas a-year may be paid to whoever may have the care of my parrot, as long as it lives, to be always the first paid annuity; and I give to Mrs. Mary Dyer the power to will and bequeath my parrot and its annuity to whomsoever she pleases, provided that person is neither a servant or a man—it must be bequeathed to some respectable female; and I also will and desire, that no person shall have the care of it, that can derive any benefit from its death; and if Mrs. Dyer should neglect to will my parrot and its annuity to any one, in that case, whoever proves that they have possession of it, shall be entitled to the annuity on its life, as long as it lives, and that they have possession of it, provided that the person is not a servant, or a man, but a respectable female; and I hope my executors will see it is in proper and respectable hands; and I also give the power to whoever possesses it, and its annuity to any respectable female, on the same conditions: And I also will and desire, that twenty guineas may be paid to Mrs. Dyer directly on my death, to be expended on a very high, long, and large cage, for the

aforesaid parrot ; it is also my will and desire, that my parrot shall not be removed out of England. I will and desire, that whoever attempts to dispute this my last will and testament, or by any means neglect, or tries to avoid paying my parrot's annuity, shall forfeit whatever I may have left them, in this my last will and testament ; and if any one that I have left legacies to, in this my last will and testament, attempt bringing in any bills or charges against me, it is my will and desire, that they shall forfeit whatever legacy I may have left them, for so doing, as I owe nothing to any one,—many owe me gratitude and money, but none have paid me either.—Dated April 28th, 1813.

Proved, 15th June, 1813, by the oath of the Reverend William Cockburn of Lisson Grove, St. Mary-le-bone, clerk, one of the executors—A power being reserved to Alexander Cockburn, Archibald Dyer, Robert French, and William Jackson, Esqrs. the five executors.



OF EDWARD MOLINEUX, LATE OF QUEEN-STREET, MAY-FAIR,
IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, WAX AND TALLOW
CHANDLER.

I am sometimes accustomed to carry Bank-notes in the fob of my breeches—Please to search the said breeches, to see if there are any.

Proved, with four-codicils, 14th September, 1807, by the oath of James Matthew Molineux, the son, and one of the executors, a power being reserved to Elizabeth Molineux, spinster, the daughter, the other executor.



OF PHILIP THICKNESE, ESQ. FORMERLY OF LONDON, BUT
LATE OF BOLOGNE, IN FRANCE.

I leave my right hand, to be cut off after my death, to my son, Lord Audley ; and I desire it may be sent to him, in

hopes that such a sight may remind him of his duty to God, after having so long abandoned the duty he owed to a father, who once affectionately loved him.

Proved, 24th January, 1793.



OF RICHARD CRAWSHAY, LATE OF CYFARTHFA, IN THE COUNTY
OF GLAMORGAN, ESQ.

To my only son, who never would follow my advice, and has treated me rudely, in very many instances; instead of making him my executor and residuary legatee, (as till this day he was), I give him one hundred thousand pounds.

Proved, 26th July, 1810, by the oath of Benjamin Hall, Esq. the sole executor.



OF JOHN MOODY, LATE OF CARNABY-STREET, ST. JAMES'S,
WESTMINSTER, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, BOOT-MAKER.

To Sir F. Burdett, Bart. I give this piece of friendly advice, to take a special care of his conduct and person, and never more to be the dupe of artful and designing men, at a contested election, or even among persons moving in a higher sphere of life; for placemen of all descriptions have conspired against him, and if prudence does not lead him into private life, certain destruction will overtake him.

Proved, 3d October, 1806, by the oaths of John Moody, the father, and William Owen Moody, the brother, the executors.



FRANCIS TROUILLE, OR TROVILLOU,

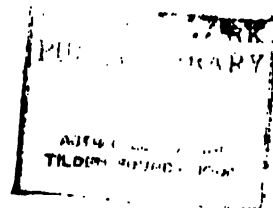
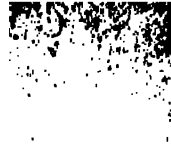
THE HORNED MAN.

STRIKING as the phenomenon of men with horns may be, there are nevertheless various instances of individuals, who



FRANCIS THROCKMOLE,
'The Herne's Man.'

Published October 6th 1811, by R. S. Kirby 11 London Beaur Yard, St Pauls.



down cast shaft, is called the John Pit, and is situated on the north side of the Sunderland road. It is 204 yards deep. The up cast, or air furnace shaft, is called the William Pit. It is on an eminence 550 yards south-west of the John Pit. It is 233 yards deep.—[In all large collieries the air is accelerated through the workings, by placing a large fire, sometimes at the bottom and sometimes at the top of the up cast shaft, which in these cases is covered over and connected with a furnace tube or chimney, by an arched gallery of brick from forty to sixty feet in length. The air, after descending the John Pit, traverses the whole colliery, through the excavations made longitudinally by the walls; the cross ways being closed, to complete the partition, by trap-doors. The air then ascends through the William Pit charged with noxious vapours to the surface of the ground. If the air be conducted through all parts of the mine, as here described, and no falls from the roof occur to prevent its visiting every corner, the old excavations, which are called wastes, will be constantly ventilated by as pure air as the new ones, called *boards*, in which the men are at work: each part of the mine will be uniformly wholesome; but when the fire in the furnace shaft is neglected, or when care has not been taken to place the stoppings and trap doors in proper places, or the trap doors are carelessly left open, or stoppings fall down,—in all these cases, accumulations of fire damp, called *stythe* by the colliers, (*carbureted hydrogen gas* of chemists), immediately begin in places deprived of the atmospheric current, and continue to train their dreadful artillery, and grow strong in danger, till the waste men, or ventilators of the mine, discover them, and wash them off, or they will ignite at the workmen's candles. Blasts occurring in partial stagnations, as in the face of one or two *boards*, though they generally scorch the persons in their way, seldom kill them; but when the air has proceeded lazily for several days

through a colliery, and an extensive magazine of fire damp is ignited in the wastes, then the whole mine is instantly illuminated with the most brilliant lightning—the expanded fluid drives before it a roaring whirlwind of flaming air, which tears up every thing in its progress, scorching some of the miners to a cinder, burying others under enormous heaps of ruins, shaken from the roof, and, thundering to the shafts, wastes its volcanic fury in a discharge of thick clouds of coal dust, stones, timber, and not unfrequently limbs of men and horses. But this first, though apparently the most terrible, is not the most destructive effect of these subterranean thunderings. All the stoppings and trap doors of the inside being blown down by the violence of the concussions, and the atmospheric current being for a short time entirely excluded from the workings, those that survive the discharge of the fire damp, are instantly suffocated by the after damp, which fills up the vacuum caused by the explosion. The after damp is called choak damp and surfeit by the colliers, and is the carbonic acid gas of chemists. While the mine is at work, it lies sluggishly upon its floor, and suffers the atmospheric air, as a lighter fluid, to swim upon it; fire then being the highest of the three, floats upon the atmospheric air, and therefore occupies a space, according to its present quantity, nearest the roof of the mine.]

This mine was considered by the workmen a model of perfection in the purity of its air, and orderly arrangements—its inclined plane was saving the daily expence of at least 13 horses—the concern wore the features of the greatest possible prosperity, and no accident, except a trifling explosion of fire damp, slightly burning two or three workmen, had occurred. Two shifts, or sets of men, were constantly employed, except on Sundays. Twenty-five acres of coal had been excavated. The first shift entered the mine at four o'clock A. M. and were relieved at their work-

ing posts by the next, at 11 o'clock in the morning.—The establishment it employed under ground, as will be seen in the succeeding narrative, consisted of about 128 persons, who, in the fortnight from the 11th to the 25th of May, 1812, wrought 624 scores of coal, equal to 1300 Newcastle chaldrons, or 2455 London chaldrons.

At half past eleven o'clock, on the morning of the 25th May, 1812, the neighbouring villages were alarmed by a tremendous explosion in this colliery. The subterranean fire broke forth with two heavy discharges from the John Pit, which were, almost instantaneously, followed by one from the William Pit. A slight trembling, as from an earthquake, was felt for about half a mile around the workings; and the noise of the explosion, though dull, was heard to three or four miles distance, and much resembled an unsteady fire of infantry. Immense quantities of dust and small coal accompanied these blasts, and rose high into the air, in the form of an inverted cone. The heaviest part of the ejected matter, such as corves, pieces of wood, and small coal, fell near the pits; but the dust, borne away by a strong west wind, fell in a continued shower from the pit to the distance of a mile and a half. In the village of Heworth, it caused a darkness, like that of early twilight, and covered the roads so thickly, that the footsteps of passengers were strongly imprinted in it. The heads of both the shaft frames were blown off, their sides set on fire, and their pullies shattered in pieces.

As soon as the explosion was heard, the wives and children of the workmen ran to the working pit. The crowd from all sides soon collected to the number of several hundreds, some crying out for a husband, others for a parent or a son, and all deeply affected with an admixture of horror, anxiety, and grief.

The machine being rendered useless by the eruption, the rope of the gin was sent down the pit with all expedition.

In the absence of horses, a number of men put their shoulders to the starts or shafts of the gin, and wrought it with astonishing expedition. By twelve o'clock, thirty-two persons, all that survived this dreadful calamity, were brought to day-light. The dead bodies of two boys, who were miserably scorched and shattered, were also brought up at this time; three boys, out of the thirty-two who escaped alive, died within a few hours after the accident. Only twenty nine persons were, therefore, left to relate what they observed of the appearances and effects of this subterraneous thundering: 121 were in the mine when it happened, and eighty-seven remained in the workings.

They who had their friends restored, hastened with them from the dismal scene, and seemed for a while to suffer as much from the excess of joy, as they had lately done from grief; and they who were yet held in doubt concerning the fate of their relations and friends, filled the air with shrieks and howlings; went about wringing their hands, and threw their bodies into the most frantic and extravagant gestures.

The persons who now remained in the mine, had all been employed in the workings, to which the plane-board was the general avenue, and as none had escaped by that way, the apprehension for their safety began to strengthen every moment. Mr. Straker, Mr. Anderson, and some others, therefore descended the John Pit, in expectation of meeting with some of them alive. As the fire damp would have instantly ignited at candles, they lighted their way by *steel-mills*, small machines which give light, by turning a plain thin cylinder of steel against a piece of flint.—Knowing that a great number of the workmen would be at the crane when the explosion happened, they attempted to reach it by the plane-boards, but their progress was intercepted at the second pillar, by the prevalence of choak-damp; the noxious fluid filled the board between the roof and the thill; and the sparks from the steel fell into it, like dark drops of blood.

Being, therefore, deprived of light, and nearly poisoned for want of atmospheric air, they retraced their steps to the shaft, and with similar success attempted to pass up the narrow boards ; in these they were stopped at the sixth pillar by a thick smoke, which stood like a wall the whole height of the board. Here their flint-mills were not only rendered useless, and respiration became extremely difficult, but the probability of their ever reaching the places where they expected to meet with those they were in search of, or of any of them alive, was entirely done away. To the hopelessness of success in their enterprize, should also be added, their certainty of the mine being on fire, and the probability of a second explosion at every moment occurring, and burying them in its ruins. A second explosion did actually occur, before they had all ascended, but it was much less than the first, and did no mischief.

[The narrative here proceeds to relate the manner in which two successive attempts were made to explore the working on the 27th, but which were equally unsuccessful with the former one.]

The report of the last adventurers partly succeeded in convincing the people that there was no possibility of any of their friends being found alive. Some indeed, went away silent, but not satisfied ; others with pitiable importunity besought that measures to recover their friends might even yet be adopted and persevered in ; and many, as if grief and rage had some necessary connection, went about loading the conductors of the mine with execrations, and threatening revenge. In the evening of this day it was resolved, to exclude the atmospheric air from entering the workings, in order to extinguish the fire which the explosion had kindled in the mine, and of which the smoke ascending the William Pit was a sure indication. Both shafts were accordingly made air-tight with clay, lowered a sufficient depth upon scaffolds.

On the 3d of July, the stoppings in the tube drift of the John Pit were taken down, and the William Pit completely opened, through which the air passed briskly into the mine, and ascended by the John Pit tube.

The morning of Wednesday the 8th of July, being the day appointed for entering the workings, the distress of the neighbourhood was again renewed at an early hour. A great concourse of people collected—As the weather was warm, and it was desirable that as much air might pass down the shaft as possible, constables were placed at proper distances to keep off the crowd. Two Surgeons were also in attendance, in case of accidents.

At six o'clock in the morning, Mr. Straker, Mr. Anderson, the overman of the colliery, and six other persons, descended the William Pit, and began to traverse the north drift, towards the plane-board. As a current of water had been constantly diverted down this shaft for the space of ten hours, the air was felt to be perfectly cool and wholesome. Light was procured from steel-mills. As the explosion had occasioned several falls of large masses of stone from the roof, their progress was considerably delayed by removing them.

The first body was found near the John Pit.—It is worthy of remark, that this person was found within two or three yards of the place where the atmospheric current concentrated, as it passed from the one pit to the other; but that he was lying on his face, with his head downwards, apparently in the position into which he had been thrown by the blast. The air visited him in vain.

When the first shift of men came up, at ten o'clock, a message was sent for a number of coffins to be in readiness at the pit. These being at the joiner's shop, piled up in a heap, to the number of 92, (a most gloomy sight), had to pass by the village of Low Felling. As soon as a cart load

of them was seen, the howlings of the women, who had hitherto continued in their houses, but now began to assemble about their doors, came on the breeze in slow, painful gusts, which presaged a scene of much distress and confusion being soon exhibited near the pit; but happily, by representing to them the shocking appearance of the body that had been found, and the ill effects upon their own bodies and minds, likely to ensue from suffering themselves to be hurried away by such violent convulsions of grief, they either returned to their houses, or continued in silence in the neighbourhood of the pit.

Every family had made provision for the entertainment of their neighbours on the day the bodies of their friends were recovered; and it had been generally given out that they intended to take the bodies into their own houses. But Dr. Ramsay having given his opinion that such a proceeding, if carried into effect, might spread a putrid fever through the neighbourhood, and the first body, when exposed to observation, having a most horrid and corrupt appearance, they readily consented to have them interred immediately after they were found. Permission, however, was given to let the hearse, in its way to the chapel yard, pass by the house of the deceased.

From the 8th of July to the 19th of September, the heart-rending scene of mothers and widows examining the putrid bodies of their sons and husbands, for marks by which to identify them, was almost daily renewed; but very few of them were known by any personal mark—they were too much mangled and scorched to retain any of their features. Their clothes, tobacco boxes, shoes, and the like, were, therefore, the only indexes by which they could be recognized.

On the 15th of July the bottom of the plane-board was reached, where the body of a mangled horse and four waggons were found. Though these waggons were made of

strong frames of oak, strengthened with hoops and bars of iron, yet the blast had driven both them and the horse with such violence down the inclined plane-board, that it had twisted and shattered them as if they had been shot from a mortar against a rock.

The crane was then visited. Here 21 bodies lay in ghastly confusion; some like mummies, scorched as dry as if they had been baked. One wanted his head, another an arm. The scene was truly frightful. The power of the fire was visible upon them all; but its effects were extremely various: while some were almost torn to pieces, there were others who appeared as if they had sunk down overpowered with sleep.

A horse had been turned round and thrown upon its back by the force of the blast; its skin, when first visited, was as hard as leather, and, like the bodies of all the men, covered with a white mould; it was dragged whole to the shaft, and sent to the bank in a net. After the atmospheric air acted a short time upon it, its skin and flesh soon lost their solidity, and became putrid.

The workmen now began to be employed in carrying on a regular ventilation through the wastes of the mine, by stoppings of brick.

On Thursday, the 6th of August, they found that the stable board had been on fire, and that the solid coal was reduced to a cinder two feet in thickness. As far as the fire had extended the roof was more fallen than in any other part of the mine. At this time it was ascertained that this fall occurred on the 14th of July. The fire here had probably been caused by the hay igniting at the explosion, and communicating to the coal.—The air, too, while the pits were open, would have its strongest current upon this board, and consequently kept the fire alive. This was the only place in which the solid coal had been on fire.—In other parts the barrow way dust was burnt to a cinder, and under the feet like frozen snow.

The ventilation concluded on Saturday the 19th of September, when the 91st body was found. At six o'clock in the morning the pit was visited by candle-light, which had not been used in it for the space of 117 days; and at eleven o'clock in the morning the tube-furnace was lighted. From this time the colliery has been regularly at work: but the body of one of the sufferers has never yet been found.

EXTRAORDINARY APPEARANCE OF
LETTERS IN A BOY'S AND GIRL'S EYES.

RELATED BY THE REV. MR. CHARLES ELLIS, IN A LETTER DATED BRUSSELS, TO DR. EDWARD TYSON, WHO SENT THE REPORT TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY, 1703.

At Brussels, July 1699, I saw a young Friesland boy, of about 5 years old, round the pupil of whose eye they pretend is naturally engraven Deus Meus, and the same in Hebrew. This is considered as a prodigious miracle in those parts: but on nicely surveying it, I could perceive it was only the iris of the eye, not circularly joined, but lashed out into fimbriæ, which here and there might be thought to form some imaginary letters, as beginning at the lachrymal corner of the left eye. There is something like D, and I, and V, but not a trace for the strongest fancy to work out any more, nor any letter of Hebrew in the right eye, as they pretended. I do not doubt, but as the boy grows up, the others may conjoin again.

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In the year 1732, a girl about nine years of age, the daughter of a sieve-maker, of Chateford, in France, was exhibited for a show, having been born with a Latin inscription round the sight of her eye, exactly resembling that upon a French crown, viz. LUD. XV. D. G. FR. ET NAV. REX. The girl was presented to their Majesties at Marly, as a great curiosity, and a wonderful *lusus naturæ*.

*Phil. Trans.* Vol. 23, p. 1416.

AN ACCOUNT OF MULTITUDES OF  
SABLE MICE,

WHICH CAME INTO LAPLAND IN TROOPS, ABOUT THORNE,  
AND OTHER PLACES, ADJACENT TO THE MOUNTAINS.

BY SIR PAUL RYCAUT, F.R.S.

In the year 1697, these sable mice were first observed, and are nearly as large as a small squirrel; their skin streaked, and spotted black and light brown; they have two very pointed teeth above, and two below: their feet like those of squirrels; they are so fierce and angry, that if a stick be held out at them they will bite it, and hold it so fast, that they may be swung about in the air; they are fat and thick, and without any tail. In their march they keep a direct line, generally from north-east to south-west, and are innumerable, thousands in each troop, which for the most part is a square figure; they march by night and in the twilight, and lie still by day. The distance of the lines they go in is of some ells, all parallel to each other, so that the places they have gone over look like the furrows in a ploughed field. If they meet any thing that might stop them, they avoid it not, though it were a fire, or a deep well, a torrent, lakes, or morass, but without any hesitation venture through, and by that means many thousands of them are destroyed, and found dead in water and otherwise. If they be met swimming over lakes, and attacked with oars or boat-hooks, they neither retreat, or offer to run up the oars, &c. but hold on their course, and if forced out of it, they presently return to it again; when they are met in woods or fields and stopped, they set themselves on their hinder feet like a dog, and make a kind of barking or squeaking noise, leaping up as high as a man's knee, defending their line as long as they can; and if at last they be forced out of it, they creep into holes, and set up a cry, sounding like biabb, biabb. They never come into any house, nor meddle with any thing that is food for man; if a house happen to be in their way, there they stop till they

die ; but through a stack of hay or corn they will eat their way ; when they march through a meadow they injure it much by eating the roots of the grass ; but if they encamp there by day they will spoil it, and make it look as if it were burnt, or strewed with ashes. The roots of grass, with rotten wood, and the insects in it, are their chief food. These creatures are very fruitful, and bring forth 8 or 9 at a time ; yet this does not hinder their march, for some of them have been observed to carry one young one in their mouth, and another on their back.

It is reported that some poor Laplanders, wanting food, have killed and eat several of these creatures, and found their flesh like that of squirrels : dogs and cats, when they kill them, eat only the heads, and birds of prey only the heart ; during the winter they lie under the snow, and have their breathing holes upon the top of it, as hares and other animals. The common people are very glad of these guests, as they foretell plenty of game, as fowls, squirrels, lo-cats, foxes, &c.

*Phil. Trans.* Vol. 21, p. 110.

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SINGULAR ACCOUNT OF  
HENRY WELBY, ESQ.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CHARACTER, WHO LIVED FORTY-FOUR  
YEARS THE LIFE OF A HERMIT, IN THE CITY OF LONDON.

THE noble and virtuous Henry Welby, Esq. was born in the year 1552. He was a native of Lincolnshire, and inherited a clear estate of above 1000*l.* a-year. He was regularly bred at the University, studied for some time at one of the Inns of Court, and in the course of his travels, spent several years abroad. On his return, this very accomplished gentleman settled on his paternal estate, married to his liking, and had a beautiful and virtuous daughter, who, with

his entire approbation, bestowed her hand on Sir Christopher Hilliard, a Yorkshire Baronet.

Mr. Welby had attained the age of forty, respected by the rich, venerated by the poor, honoured and beloved by all; when, one day, a younger brother, with whom he had some difference of opinion, meeting him in the field, snapped a pistol at him, which, fortunately, flashed in the pan. Thinking this was done only to frighten him, he coolly disarmed the ruffian, put the weapon carelessly into his pocket, and thoughtfully returned home. On examination, he discovered that the pistol was charged with more than one bullet; and this circumstance had such an effect on his mind, that he instantly conceived the extraordinary resolution of retiring entirely from the world, in which he persisted inflexibly till the end of his life.

Accordingly, in the year 1592, he removed to London, and took a neat house in the lower end of Grub-street, near Cripplegate. This house he prepared for the purpose, and contracting a numerous retinue into a small family, he selected three chambers for himself; one for eating, the second for a bed chamber, and the third for his study. As they were one within another, while his repast was set on the table, by an old maid, he retired into his bed chamber, and when his bed was making, into his study, till all was clear. Out of these chambers he never issued, from the time of his first entering them, till he was carried out, forty-four years afterwards, to his grave. Nor in all that time did his son-in-law, daughter, or grand-child, brother, sister, or kinsman, or any other person, young or old, rich or poor, ever see his face, excepting the ancient maid, whose name was Elizabeth. She only made his fire and his bed, provided his diet, and cleaned his chambers. She saw him but seldom, never but in cases of extraordinary necessity, and died only six days before him.

During the whole time of his retirement, he never tasted

fish or flesh ; his chief food was oat-meal gruel ; now and then, in summer, he had a sallad of some choice cool herbs ; and for dainties, when he would feast himself, on a high day, he would eat the yolk of a hen's egg, but no part of the white. What bread he ate, he cut out of the middle of the loaf, but the crust he never tasted. His constant drink was four shilling beer, and no other, for he never tasted wine or spirits. He now and then took some red cow's milk, which his maid, Elizabeth, fetched him out of the fields, hot from the cow. Nevertheless, he kept a bountiful table for his servants, had sufficient entertainment for any stranger or tenant, who had occasion of business at his house. Every book that was printed, was bought for him, and conveyed to him ; but such as related to controversy, he always laid aside, and never read.

In Christmas holidays, at Easter, and other festivals, he had great cheer provided, with all the dishes in season, served into his own chamber, together with a large quantity of wine, which was brought in by his maid. After giving thanks to God for his benefits, he used to pin a clean napkin before him, and putting on a pair of white Holland sleeves, which reached to his elbows, cutting up dish after dish, in order, he would send one to one poor neighbour, the next to another, whether it was brawn, beef, capon, goose, &c. till he had left the table quite empty ; when giving thanks again, he laid by his linen, and ordered the cloth to be taken away. This formality he practised, both dinner and supper, on those days, without tasting one morsel of any thing whatsoever.

When any persons clamoured impudently at his gate, they were not, on that account, immediately relieved ; but when, from his private chamber, which had a prospect into the street, he perceived any sick, infirm, or lame, he presently sent after them, to comfort, cherish, and strengthen them,

and not a trifle to serve their present necessities, but sufficient to afford them relief for several days.

He would, moreover, enquire what neighbours were industrious in their callings, and which had a great charge of children; and if their labour and industry could not abundantly supply their families, he used to send, and liberally relieve them, according to their necessities.

This singular, but benevolent and exemplary character, died, at his house in Grub-street, after an anchoretical confinement of forty-four years, October the 29th, 1636, aged eighty-four years. At his death, his hair and beard were so overgrown, that he appeared rather like a hermit of the wilderness, than the inhabitant of one of the first cities in the world; and his body lies buried at St. Giles' Church, Cripplegate.

#### A LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL MOUNTAINS

IN THE KNOWN WORLD, WITH A TABLE OF HEIGHTS IN  
ENGLISH FEET, FROM THE LEVEL OF THE SEA, ACCORDING  
TO DR. YOUNG, DELUC, SHUCKBERG, ROY, BOURGUEL, &c.

|                                                                                                                       | <i>Feet.</i> |                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The Caspian Sea lower by                                                                                              | 306          | Roy, supposes the low                                                                                                                       |
| The Thames, at }<br>Hampton, (Roy) }                                                                                  | 14½          | water of the spring                                                                                                                         |
| The Tiber at Rome                                                                                                     | 33           | tides at Isleworth,                                                                                                                         |
| The Seine at Paris, }<br>mean height }                                                                                | 36½          | to be only one foot                                                                                                                         |
| The Thames at Buck-<br>ingham stairs, fif-<br>teen feet and a half<br>below the pave-<br>ment in the left<br>arcade } | 43           | above the mean sur-<br>face of the ocean.                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                       |              | He allows seven                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                                                       |              | feet for the differ-<br>ence of the low wa-<br>ter at the Nore and<br>at Isleworth; taking<br>eighteen feet for the<br>height of the spring |

|                                                                                                                                                                     | <i>Feet.</i> |                                                   | <i>Feet.</i> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| tide adds one third<br>of this for the mean<br>height of the sea.<br>At Hampton, the<br>Thames is 13 feet<br>and one third above<br>low water mark at<br>Isleworth. |              | Saddleback, (Cum-<br>berland)                     | 3048         |
| <b>The Pagoda in Kew-<br/>gardens, from the<br/>ground</b>                                                                                                          | 116½         | Mount Donard (Ireland)                            | 3168         |
| <b>The west end of the<br/>Tarpeian rock</b>                                                                                                                        | 151          | Halvellyn (Wales)                                 | 3224         |
| <b>The Palestine hill</b>                                                                                                                                           | 166          | Ben Lomond (Scotland)                             | 3262         |
| <b>The Claudian aque-<br/>duct, bottom of the<br/>Canal</b>                                                                                                         | 208          | Skiddaw (Cumberland)                              | 3270         |
| <b>The Janiculum</b>                                                                                                                                                | 293          | Montseratt (Spain)                                | 3300         |
| <b>The Cross at St. Paul's,<br/>from the ground</b>                                                                                                                 | 340          | Chamouny, ground<br>floor of the Inn              | 3367         |
| <b>The old cross of Saint<br/>Paul's, before burnt</b>                                                                                                              | 534          | Cross Fell (Cumber-<br>land)                      | 3390         |
| <b>St. Peter's, summit of<br/>the cross, (from the<br/>ground) 471</b>                                                                                              | 535          | Pendle (Wales)                                    | 3411         |
| <b>Arthur's Seat, from<br/>Leith pier head</b>                                                                                                                      | 803          | Table Mount Cape                                  | 3454         |
| <b>Lake of Geneva</b>                                                                                                                                               | 1230         | Schehallion                                       | 3461         |
| <b>(Its greatest depth 393)</b>                                                                                                                                     |              | Ben Glœ                                           | 3472         |
| <b>Filabres, (Spain)</b>                                                                                                                                            | 2100         | Snowden (Wales)                                   | 3568         |
| <b>Mount Vesuvius, base<br/>of the cone</b>                                                                                                                         | 2021         | Ben Muir (Scotland)                               | 3723         |
| <b>Nephtin and Croagh<br/>Patrick, (Ireland)</b>                                                                                                                    | 2640         | Ben Lawers (Scotland)                             | 3858         |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |              | Pennyngant (Yorkshire)                            | 3930         |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |              | Mount Vesuvius,<br>mouth of the crater<br>(Italy) | 3938         |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |              | Ingleborough (Swit-<br>zerland)                   | 3987         |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |              | Whernside (Yorkshire)                             | 4050         |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |              | Ben Fouaish (Scotland)                            | 4200         |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |              | Ben Nevis (Scotland)                              | 4370         |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |              | Hog-back mountains<br>(S. America)                | 4640         |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |              | Hecla (Iceland)                                   | 4887         |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |              | Pic Ruivo (Madeira)                               | 5141         |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |              | Glacieres of India                                | 5280         |
|                                                                                                                                                                     |              | Summit of Mount<br>Jura (Switzerland)             | 5523         |



|                                      | <i>Feet.</i> |                                    | <i>Feet.</i> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Joch (Switzerland)                   | 5926         | Glacière de Buet } (Alps)          | 10124        |
| Rœtnik (Sweden)                      | 6000         | Etna (Sicily)                      | 10954        |
| Gemmi (Switzerland)                  | 6012         | Pike of Teneriffe } (Borda)        | 11022        |
| Summit of the Mole                   | 6113         | Pike of Teneriffe } (old estimate) | 15084        |
| Mont Ceniz, á la poste               | 6261         | Pic D'Ossano (Pyrenees)            | 11700        |
| Snæfjals (Iceland)                   | 6800         | Aiguille d'Argentiere              | 13402        |
| Titlisberg (Switzerland)             | 6900         | Ophir in Sumatra } (Marsden)       | 13842        |
| White Mountains } (S. America)       | 7000         | Monte Rosa (Alps)                  | 15084        |
| Pic de los Reyes (Pyrenees)          | 7620         | Summit of Mont Blanc (Alps)        | 15669        |
| Mount Velino (Appennines)            | 8397         | Pinchincha (South America)         | 15679        |
| City of Gondar (Abyssinia)           | 8440         | Mouna Roa (Owhyhee)                | 16020        |
| Canigou (Pyrenees)                   | 8544         | Mouna Kaah (Owhyhee)               | 18400        |
| Summit of Mount Ceniz (Alps)         | 9212         | Cotopaxi (S. America)              | 18756        |
| Pic du Midi (Pyrenees)               | 9300         | Antisana (S. America)              | 19290        |
| Quito (S. America)                   | 9377         | Chimbroagoo (South America)        | 19595        |
| Stella, or Piz Stail } (Switzerland) | 9585         |                                    |              |
| Monte Viso                           | 9997         |                                    |              |

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### MATTHEW DAKING,

AN EXTRAORDINARY GREAT EATER, AT BLACK BARNLEY,  
IN YORKSHIRE,

COMMUNICATED BY DR. MORTIMER, SECRETARY OF THE  
ROYAL SOCIETY, APRIL 15, 1745.

THE boy was about twelve years of age, and was regular  
as other children, till about a year before the above date,

when this extraordinary craving of appetite first began; which afflicted him to such a degree, that if he was not fed as he called out for it, he would gnaw the very flesh off his bones; so that, when awake, he was constantly devouring; it could hardly be called eating, because nothing passed his stomach; all was thrown up again.

Of the various substances, bread, meat, beer, milk, water, butter, cheese, sugar, treacle, pudding, rye, fruit, broth, potatoes, &c. he swallowed in six successive days, as follows :

|           |            |                    |
|-----------|------------|--------------------|
| Thursday, | 69 lb.     | 8 oz.              |
| Friday,   | 61         | 14                 |
| Saturday, | 58         | 8                  |
| Sunday,   | 77         | 0                  |
| Monday,   | 60         | 12                 |
| Tuesday,  | 55         | 8                  |
| Salt      | 1          | 0 in the six days. |
| Total     | <u>384</u> | <u>2</u>           |

In addition to the above extraordinary *Boulimia*, or craving appetite, we insert the medical treatment, and further particulars,

BY J. COOKSON, M. D. DATED APRIL 24TH, 1745.

The following relation, respecting the boy at *Barnesley*, six miles from *Wakefield*, contained also an account of his eating and drinking, for six successive days.

*Matthew Daking*, a healthy and sprightly boy, about ten years old, was about fifteen months since, seized with a fever, which continued above a fortnight. In the beginning, he had frequent provocations to vomit, which induced his apothecary to give him a gentle vomit of *ipecacuanha*. The retchings continuing, he gave him another: They seemed to operate well, but yet did not answer the end, in settling

his stomach ; however, the fever gradually went off, but the vomiting rather increased, notwithstanding some other methods were used.

He then began to have a craving appetite ; to satisfy which, he was indulged in eating and drinking more plentifully, but always vomited most of what he had taken, almost immediately. His appetite kept increasing, so that in a few weeks, his eating was come to the pitch before mentioned. Thus he has continued above a year. His urine and stools did not exceed those in health ; so that he vomited most of what he took in. He had tried crude mercury, and all sorts of medicines, and mineral waters. He looked pretty well in the face, and was cheerful ; but had lost the use of his legs and thighs, which were much emaciated. He was sometimes so hungry, that he said he could eat them all ; he often wished he were in the king's kitchen.

*Phil. Trans.* Vol. 43, p. 380.

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### DREADFUL EFFECTS OF DRINKING STAGNATED WATERS,

BY DISCHARGING VARIOUS ANIMALS.

M. F. Keienlin, in his miscellaneous works, states, that Marianne Fisher, aged 24 years, who was under the care of Dr. Heini, in the hospital at Friburgh, from the month of January to December, 1811, discharged one frog, three small cray-fishes, fifty-two leeches, and eight worms, from the stomach. Dr. Heini attributed the cause to the water of a marsh, which this young woman frequently drank, in the previous month of August.

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## SOME ACCOUNT OF

## MR. THOMAS CLIO RICKMAN,

## COMMONLY CALLED THE CITIZEN OF THE WORLD.


THIS well known gentleman is a bookseller, in Upper Mary-le-bone-street, where he has lived many years. He was born at Lewes, in Sussex, May 27, 1761, and received his education at the public school of the same place, and also at Coggeshall, in Essex. He became, at an early period, an admirer of poetry, which led him to think of raising himself above the common drudgery of mankind, by his talents. He went to Maidenhead, as an apprentice to his brother, a surgeon and apothecary; but that becoming tiresome to him, after five years, he left it; and having found so much pleasure in reading the works of Hume, Voltaire, Rousseau, and, in general, most of the celebrated French philosophers, moralists, and politicians of that day, he began to feel their arguments so strong on his mind, as to attempt supporting them, in several juvenile productions, both in prose and verse, which found ready insertion in several periodical publications of the day. Though encouraged in his favourite pursuits, he never lost a moment to increase his knowledge. On the death of a brother, in 1779, he returned to Lewes, and joined his father in a mercantile concern. Here he did not neglect his favourite study. In 1783, he married Maria, the third daughter of Mr. Emlyn, of Windsor, the celebrated architect; but their happiness was but short, as she died eleven months after. It destroyed his peace of mind, blasted his prospects, and threw him on the world. He originally was a member of the Society of Quakers, but had withdrawn from them some time, with a determination of never belonging to any association again, civil or religious, convinced that all parties, under whatever name or denomination, would bar his progress to truth. To



MR THOMAS CLEGG TRICKMAN,  
*'The Citizen of the World.'*

*Published October 11<sup>th</sup> 1814, by R. S. Kirby 11 London House Yard, St Pauls.*

publications, at that time deemed seditious, he escaped into France, where he remained two years; when he returned he wrote and published several well-written productions. In August, 1802, he again went to France, and took leave of Thomas Paine, at Havre de Grace, on his return to America. In 1804, he published a Letter of Paine's; although it was only distributed amongst his friends, he was arrested, and his books and papers seized; he however, obtained bail. The Attorney General filed a bill *ex-officio*, but it was not carried on, upon his entering into recognizance. By persevering in his philosophy, he injured his circumstances very materially; his wife was indefatigable in her labours to maintain herself and family while he was absent at times, and having a family of seven children, she deserves the highest praise. It could not be expected from a person of Mr. Rickman's mind, but that some mark of eccentricity would outwardly appear—ever since the French Revolution he has appeared in the exact manner our portrait is drawn, which was well executed by the late Mr. Deighton. Even to this day he not only bears the name of the Citizen of the World, but appears in the same dress at all times, and all his sons are dressed after the same manner, and they were named after all the great philosophers of the day. So determined has he been to watch the progress of time, and the expences of bringing up a family, that he has preserved for a series of years a number of penny loaves purchased in regular progress from plenty to scarcity, and surely nothing can shew the alteration of time so clearly. However singular Mr. Rickman may be, he has at all times endeavoured to be serviceable to his fellow-citizens: although his new philosophy might not be supported, he did not stick to that solely, for some years back he obtained a patent for a signal-trumpet, for increasing the power of sound, the report of which was extended by the firing of a pistol at the mouth of a wide-mouthed trumpet.



## A PETRIFIED CHILD,

IN THE ROYAL MUSEUM AT COPENHAGEN.

AMONGST the natural curiosities preserved in these chambers, one of the most remarkable is a petrified child, the history whereof has been given at large by Bartholiné, Licetus, and other authors. This child was found at Sens in Champagne, in the year 1582, after having lain there between twenty and thirty years ; and that it is human, and not artificial, is evident beyond all dispute. Its head, shoulders, and belly, are all of a whitish colour, and very much resemble alabaster ; the back and loins are somewhat brown and harder, and as hard and perfect stone as can be, exactly resembling the hard sort of stones generated in the bladder. This foetus, after it was taken from the mother, was first carried to a Jeweller at Paris, where it was sold for about twenty pounds sterling ; of whom it was afterwards purchased by Frederick III. King of Denmark, for sixty pounds, and added to this collection.

*Phil. Trans. Vol. 23, Smith, &c.*

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## THE SAMPFORD GHOST.

THE following is an authentic narrative of those extraordinary occurrences, and their exposure, which took place at the house of Mr. John Chave, in the village of Sampford Peverell, in the county of Devon, about five miles from Tiverton, in the year 1810, being little inferior to the Cock-Lane Ghost.

The Rev. Mr. Colton, in his history of this transaction, says the house became extremely troublesome, speaking in September, although long before that time, some very unaccountable things had occasionally taken place in it. An

apprentice boy had expressed himself often dreadfully alarmed by the apparition of a woman, and had heard some extraordinary sound, in the night, but little or no attention was paid to it. But about April the inhabitants of the house were alarmed in the following manner; noises and blows by day were heard, extremely loud, in every apartment of the house. On going up stairs and stamping on any of the boards of the floor in any room, say five or six times, or more, corresponding blows, but generally louder, and more in number, would be instantly returned; the vibration of these boards caused by the violence of the blows, would be sensibly felt through a shoe or boot, on the sole of the foot, and the dust was thrown up from the boards that were beaten, with such velocity, as to affect the eyes of the spectators.

At mid-day the cause of these effects would announce its approach, by amazingly loud knocking in some apartment or other of the house, above stairs or below, as might happen, for at times more than a dozen witnesses have been present at once.

These noises would very often, and in repeated instances, absolutely follow the persons through any of the upper apartments, and faithfully answer the stamping of their feet, wherever they went. And if persons were in different rooms, and one stamped with his foot in one room, the sound was repeated, and in an instant was repeated on a stamp in another room, and these phenomena by day continued almost incessantly for about five weeks, when they gradually gave place to others still more curious and alarming, viz. There are two apartments in this house: whatever females sleep in either of these apartments, (with the exception of one single instance,) experienced some of them all, and all of them some of the following sensations. They are most dreadfully beaten, as bye-standers may hear and witness., I am quite certain I have heard myself more than two hun-



dred blows given in the course of a night. The blows given can be compared to nothing but a very strong man striking with the greatest force he is master of, with a closed fist on the bed; which leave great soreness, and visible marks; I saw a swelling at least as big as a turkey's egg on the cheek of Ann Mills; she voluntarily made oath that she was alone in the bed when she received the blows from some invisible hand. Mrs. Dennis, and Mary Woodbury, have both sworn voluntarily before me, and Mr. Sully the exciseman, and Mr. Govett, that they were so much beaten, as to experience a peculiar kind of numbness, and were sore many days after; and that the shrieks he heard himself, and Mr. Govett, surgeon, were so terrible that they could not be counterfeited. Mr. Chave, the occupier of the house, deposed, that one night the two servants were so much agitated that they refused to sleep any longer in their apartment; Mr. Chave permitted them in the dead of the night to bring their bed and bed-clothes into the room where he and Mrs. Chave slept; after they had been quiet about half an hour, and the light put out, a large iron candlestick began to move most rapidly over the whole room. He could hear no footsteps, but in the act of ringing the bell, the candlestick was violently thrown at his head, which it narrowly missed. Mr. Searle, late keeper of the county gaol, and a friend, watched one night; they saw a sword placed by them on the foot of a bed, with a large folio Testament placed on it, thrown violently against the wall, seven feet off. Mr. Taylor deposed that in going into the room in consequence of the shrieks of the women, the sword that before was lying on the floor, he saw clearly suspended in the centre of the room, with its point towards him: in about a minute it fell to the ground with a loud noise.

On September 14th, Ann Mills deposed on oath before Mr. Sully and myself, that she was beaten so violently on that

night, and while striking a light she received a very severe blow on the back, and the tinder-box was forcibly wrenched out of her hands and thrown into the centre of the room.

Mr. Sully the exciseman, and his wife, were ready to swear to the truth of what they have heard of these noises and thumpings, &c. James Dodds, cooper, voluntarily made oath, September 14th, that in his work-shop adjoining Chave's house, he had constant opportunities of hearing these noises. The Rev. Gentleman said the names of all the females that have suffered are as follows, Mary Dennis, sen. Mary Dennis, jun. Martha Woodbury, Anne Mills, Mrs. Pitts, and Sally Case. I have seen a sword when placed in the hands of some of these women, repeatedly and violently wrested out of them, after a space of a few minutes, and thrown with a very loud noise sometimes into the middle of the room; sometimes still more violently against the wall. This sword I have heard taken up, and with it beat the bed, by its shaking the handle in a particular manner; I have placed a large folio Greek Testament, weighing 8 or 9 pounds, on the bed; it has been repeatedly thrown into the centre of the room. Mr. Pullen, Mr. Betty, and himself have placed the Testament on the end of the bedstead, in such a manner that no part touched the bed-clothes, but it was thrown with a loud noise from the foot of the bed to the head: all this time the women were in bed, and he is sure they never moved, and he administered an oath to them the next morning in the presence of the same gentlemen. I have often heard the curtains of the bed most violently agitated, accompanied with a loud and almost indescribable motion of the rings. These curtains, to prevent their motion, were often tied up, each one of them in one large knot, (being four). Every curtain in that bed was agitated, and the knots thrown and whirled about with such rapidity, that it would have been unpleasant to have been in their vortex, or within the sphere of their action. Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Chave, of Mere, (no relation

to the occupier), was witness to all this, that took up about two minutes, and concluded with a noise resembling the tearing of a person's shirt from top to bottom, but on examination, a rent was found across the grain of a strong new cotton curtain. I have heard in the presence of other witnesses footsteps walking by me, and round me, and one or two candles burning, yet could see nothing. Mr. Quick and himself heard it come down stairs like a man's foot in a slipper, and passed through the wall. I have been in the act of opening a door, which was already half open, a violent rapping was produced on the opposite of the same door; I paused a moment, and the rapping continued; I suddenly opened the door, yet I can swear I could see nothing, with a candle in my hand. I have been in one of the rooms that has a large modern window, when from the noises, knockings, blows on the bed, and rattling of the curtains, I did really begin to think the whole chamber was falling in. Mr. Taylor was sitting in the chair the whole time; the females were so terrified that large drops stood on their foreheads. When in the act of beating the females in one bed most violently, and from the sound of the blows, apparently near the foot of the bed, I have rushed to the spot, but it has instantly been heard at the same moment near the head of the other bed. Numberless extraordinary things have been seen and heard by individuals, in this house, but the Rev. Gentleman, objected to well told tales, unless supported by witnesses: how in the name of wonder he could listen, and support such a scene as he related, is most extraordinary; he had, however, made himself the laughing stock of all the old women in that part of the country for the part he took, and was very angry in being called a "blind and superstitious bigot," by the newspapers, &c. The Rev. Gentleman found it convenient to leave that part of the country for a while, and reside in the metropolis, to let the matter die away.

Mr. Talley, the landlord of the house, told a tale very different to the Rev. Gentleman, and most of his friends, beginning with the history of the house, and exposing the whole artifice, as follows.

The premises occupied by Chave, the huckster, of Sampford Beverell, near Tiverton, formerly belonged to a Mrs. Bellamy, a successful dealer in almost every article of food and raiment, from a penny-worth of cheese to a rich brocade.

On the death of Mrs Bellamy, her property devolved to her daughter, who died, leaving two female children; one of whom married a Mr. Jennings, now resident in London, and the other died a short time ago, having previously married a Mr. Talley, a farmer, who resided half a mile from the town of Tiverton.

Upon the death of their mother, the respective husbands of Mrs. Talley, and Mrs. Jennings became each of them entitled to a moiety, in right of their wives, of the premises nocturnally molested.

The premises remained unoccupied some time, until Mr. Chave agreed to take them at a rent of 20*l.* per annum, on condition of their being put into repair. Those repairs were ordered by Mr. Talley, and consisted of a variety of carpenters' and masons' work; the expence of which, on behalf of himself and Mr. Jennings, he engaged to pay.

When the workmen's bills were sent into Mr. Talley, he found one for painters' work amounting to 9*l.* and upwards, which not being comprised within his instructions for repairing the premises, he expressed his disinclination to pay, without Mr. Jennings's consent to subscribe his moiety thereto. Mr. Jennings was accordingly applied to, and at once refused his subscription to the discharge of the bill, on the ground of the expence having been unnecessarily incurred. It was during the delay occasioned by this correspondence, and not before, that the strange visitations at Samp-

feed, which have racked the brains of the country-people, first transpired.

Finding that Chave, by whose order the painter was employed, persisted in contending that the owners of the property ought to discharge it, Mr. Talley, to avoid litigation on so trivial an account, signified to Chave that he would pay the bill, observing at the same time, that they, (meaning himself and Mr. Jennings) "must tight themselves another way." Chave replied, "I suppose you mean I must turn out." "That," said the other, "depends on Mr. Jennings, to whom I shall write, acquainting him with what has taken place."

After this, the violence and frequency of the ghostly visiting became considerably aggravated. The servants were night after night slapped, pinched, and buffeted; the bed was more than once stuck full of pins; loud and repeated knockings were heard in all the upper rooms; the house shook; the windows rattled in their casements, and all the horrors of the bloodiest romance were accumulated in this devoted habitation. The vassals of witchcraft awoke from their slumbers; the prince of darkness held his court at Sampford; thousands assembled to pay him homage, and the tail of his satanic majesty became dignified with a tassel of very imposing effect, in the affidavit of the Rev. C. Colton, which appeared in print as follows.

"[I now proceed to a short detail of circumstances, to the truth of which, I have voluntarily sworn, with a safe and clear conscience; I am well aware that all who know me, would not require the sanction of an oath, but as I am now addressing the public, I must consider myself before a tribunal, of which my acquaintance constitutes a very small part. And first, I depose solemnly, that after an attendance of six nights, (not successive), at Mr. Chave's house, in the village of Sampford, and with a mind perfectly unprejudiced, after the most minute investigation,

and closest inspection of all the premises, I am utterly unable to account for any of the phenomena I have there seen and heard, and labour at this moment under no small perplexity, arising from a determination not lightly to admit of supernatural interference, and an impossibility of hitherto tracing these effects to any human cause. I farther depose, that in my visits to Mr. Chave's house, at Sampford, I never had any other motive, direct or indirect, avowed or concealed, but an earnest, and I presume, not a culpable wish, to trace these phenomena to their true and legitimate cause. Also, that I have in every instance, found the people of the house most willing and ready to contribute every thing in their power, and to co-operate with me in the detection of the cause of those unaccountable sights, and violent blows and sounds. Also, that I am so deeply convinced of the difficulty of proving these effects to be human, that I stand engaged to forfeit a very considerable sum to the poor of my parish, whenever this business, now going on at Sampford, shall be made appear to have been produced by any human art or ingenuity, collectively, or individually exerted. Also, that I have, in the presence of many gentlemen, repeatedly sworn the domestics to this effect, namely,—that they were not only utterly ignorant of the cause of those circumstances, which then astonished us, but also of the causes of many other things, equally unaccountable, which we ourselves did not hear, nor see, but to the truth of which they also swore, no less than to their perfect ignorance of the means by which they were produced. Also, that I have affixed a seal with a crest, to every door, cavity, &c. in the house, through which any communication could be carried on;—that this seal was applied to each end of sundry pieces of paper, in such a manner, that the slightest attempt to open such doors, or to pass such cavities, must have broken these papers, in which case my crest must have prevented

their being replaced without discovery ;—that none of these papers were deranged or broken ; and also, that the phenomena that night were as unaccountable as ever. Also, that I have examined several women, quite unconnected with the family of Mr. Chave ; but who, some from curiosity, and some from compassion, have slept in this house—that many of them related the facts on oath—that all of them wished to be so examined, if required, and lastly, that they all agreed, without one exception, in this particular,—that their night's rest was invariably destroyed by violent blows from some invisible hand—by an unaccountable and rapid drawing and with-drawing of the curtains—by a suffocating and almost inexpressible weight, and by a repetition of sounds, so loud, as at times to shake the whole room. Also, that there are more than twenty people of credibility, quite unconnected with the owner, or the present tenants of this house in question, who have related to me the most astonishing circumstances they have seen and heard on these premises ; all of which they are ready to substantiate, if called upon, on oath. Also, that it appears that this plot, if it be a plot, hath been carried on for many months ; that it must be in the hands of more than fifty people, all of whom are ready to perjure themselves, though not one of them could possibly gain any thing by it ;—that the present owner is losing the value of his house, the tenant, the customers of his shop, whom fear now prevents from visiting it after sun-set, and that the domestics are losing their rest ; and all these evils are with most exemplary patience submitted to, without any object, but the keeping of a ridiculous secret, which, although so many are privy to it, and many more interested in discovering, hath not yet been divulged, although such a disclosure would be attended with circumstances highly advantageous and gratifying to any person who could be induced to discover it].”

"To the truth of the above cited particulars, *enclosed between the two crotchets*, I voluntarily make oath, in the presence of B. Wood, Master in Chancery, Tiverton.

"B. Wood, M. C."

With respect to the facts that have led me to the above conclusions, to detail them would be wholly unnecessary; but here I must once for all observe, that I by no means wish it to be conceived, that these mysterious circumstances never can, or will be discovered, because I have not been able to effect it; it is true, I have given the subject all the attention I thought it deserved, but others may be more fortunate in their methods of investigation. But that I may not appear singular in such conclusions, as the experience of my senses has forced upon me, I shall here subscribe the names of a few, selected from a cloud of witnesses, on whose minds a sensible experience of similar facts hath produced similar convictions; facts, which they are willing to substantiate on oath, they are utterly unable to trace to any human agency. The names are as follows:

Mr. JOHN GOVETT, Surgeon, Tiverton,

Mr. BETTY, Surgeon, Tiverton.

Mr. PULLIN, Merchant, Tiverton.

Mr. QUICK, Landlord of the White Horse, Tiverton.

Mr. MERSON, Surgeon, Sampford.

JOHN COWLING, Esq. Sampford.

Mr. CHAVE, Mere, near Huntsham.

All these gentlemen are ready, if called on, to depone to their having witnessed circumstances in this house at Sampford, to them perfectly inexplicable, and for which they are utterly incapable to account.

August 18th, 1810.

C. COLTON."

While this melo-drama was in full representation, it so happened that Mr. Talley, having some dwelling-houses and a piece of land to sell at Sampford, went thither, accompanied by his solicitor, a gentleman of equal private



worth and professional eminence, residing at Uffculm, who after the business of the sale was concluded, advised his client to dissipate the idle rumours in agitation, respecting Chave's house, by remaining in the premises one night. This was willingly consented to, and intimation of such intention was given to Chave accordingly.

No person could be better qualified for appeasing the troubled spirit than Mr. Talley. It is true, he was not provided with a Greek Testament, like Mr. Colton. Perhaps he never saw a word of Greek in his life, and heard much less of Theocritus than of Arthur Young. But he possessed that which, in the present instance, proved more useful than all the Greek that the late Professor Porson himself could have devoted to the subject. He took with him a reasonable degree of scepticism, and a considerable share of common sense, and we shall presently see how these vulgar spells were found to operate.

Mr. Talley himself lived in the premises, occupied by Mr. Chave, more than two years, and consequently knew every concealed passage and secret recess in the dwelling.

The sale of the premises belonging to Mr. Talley took place on the 11th of June last; and after it was over, which was not until the evening, he proceeded to Chave's, and signified his wish to sleep in any room of the house that might be assigned him. A good deal of opposition was made to this, under the pretence that he would be sure to pass a troublesome night, but Mr. Talley persisting in his object, and observing that he had never experienced the least inconvenience during the two years in which he occupied the house, at last obtained Chave's consent to sleep in the room, in which of all others the knockings were most frequent. Mr. Talley however stipulated, that none of the servants should remain in the premises, and this was also, with much reluctance, acquiesced in.

About ten o'clock Mr. Talley went to the house; and, on reaching the shop-door, he observed a man leaning on the

counter, and Mrs. Chave, on the opposite side, in apparent earnest conversation with him. Mr. Talley halted a few seconds on his entrance, and distinctly heard Mrs. Chave say to the man with whom she was conversing—"Now be sure you come when we send for you." The man promised obedience, and retired by the door at which Mr. Talley was then entering. This man's name was Dodge, (a most alarming personage for the ghost!) a cooper, who lives at Sampford, and whose habits and character rendered him a worthy associate for Chave, and his hopeful brother-in-law, young Taylor.

Mr. Talley, advancing to Mrs. Chave, told her he came to take possession of his room; and she assured him, that in compliance with her engagement, all the servants were sent away, and that no one would remain in the house except herself, her husband, and an apprentice lad, about fourteen years of age. Mr. Talley then said, as he knew his way, he would go up stairs at once. He accordingly proceeded to the anti-chamber which Taylor usually occupied, and which communicated, by a door in a thin deal partition, to the adjoining room wherein Sally slept. It was this room that the ghost selected for the principal scene of his vagaries.

On Mr. Talley's arriving at the aforesaid anti-chamber, he was much surprised to observe a man sitting on the bedside, half concealed by the curtain. Advancing towards him, and drawing back the curtain, he found him to be the identical Dodge the cooper, who had appeared to leave the premises when Mr. Talley entered. This fellow contrived to get up stairs by one of the three entrances which led from other parts of the premises to the room in which he then was. The fact of there being these several entrances, had always been studiously concealed by Chave from the numberless visitors, who had been drawn by curiosity from all parts of the country, to attend the ghostly lectures.

On recognizing Dodge, (for Mr. Talley could not be mistaken in him, having known him for years), he exclaimed, "Why, cooper! how came you here?" He replied, "that he came to sleep with the apprentice boy, who, having seen an old woman descend through the ceiling a few nights ago, was afraid to sleep alone." Mr. Talley then begged him to undress himself, and get into bed; which the other declined, saying, he would rather lie down with his clothes on. Mr. Talley then took the precaution to lock all the doors; and, taking the keys with him, went into the bed prepared for him in Sally's room. Having kept awake some hours, and finding the ghost not so complaisant to him, as it invariably was to his *chargé d'affaires*, the Rev. Mr. Colton, he went to sleep, perfectly unmolested either by slaps, or sounds of any description.

When Mr. Talley drew back the curtain the preceding night, on discovering Dodge, he observed against the wall a mop-stick, which he immediately suspected was to become the instrument of the sounds to be produced underneath Sally's room.

On quitting his apartment in the morning, Mr. Talley went into the chamber where Dodge was, (who could not quit his room until Mr. Talley arose to let him out of it, he having taken the key), and on looking for the mop-stick, found it had been removed into another part of the room. Our readers must pay attention to this, and to the ensuing points of this narrative, as the knavery now rapidly unfolds itself.

Taking up the mop-stick, Mr. Talley said to Dodge, "How came this stick here?" The other answered, that he supposed it was always there, and knew nothing about it. "That (replied Mr. Talley) is impossible, for this is the third situation in which I have seen this stick since I came to these premises last evening. I saw it standing by the pump trough in the court, when I first entered. I saw

it a second time, last night, behind the curtain where you were sitting ; and now, for the third time, I find it removed to another part of this chamber. You must certainly have used it, or intended to have used it, had I not prevented you, by locking the doors last night." The fellow made no reply ; and Mr. Talley, on examining the end of the stick, found it battered into small splinters, and covered with white wash. " Now," said Mr. Talley, " I think I can play the ghost with any person in the house." Then having left the premises, he returned some time after, and begging Mrs. Chave to go into the pantry with him, said, if she was ignorant how the roguery was managed, he would explain it. They accordingly went into the pantry, where Mr. Talley found the ceiling in a state of considerable mutilation from the ghostly thumps it had received. Mr. Talley then shewed, by striking on the battered walls, and on the joists of the floor, how the sounds were produced, which had so puzzled the Greek scholar, Mr. Colton.

At the very time that Mr. Talley was underneath, explaining the roguery, as we have just mentioned, Chave himself was in Sally's room, exhibiting to a man who resided at Sampford, named Karslake, (formerly a serjeant in the South Devon militia), the place where the knockings were chiefly heard. At this place, two planks of the floor had been removed ; and when Mr. Talley, who was underneath, was bestowing his explanatory thumps on the ceiling, Chave, who did not know that any one was below, told the serjeant that the ghost was come again, and that that was the exact spot where it was chiefly heard. Serjeant Karslake instantly seized the enchanted sword (which once with tyger-like ferocity, flew at Mr. Colton's head, and which, for one reason, it is surprising it made no impression on), and exclaiming, " By G-d, I'll find thee out now," plunged the sword through the ceiling. Mr. Talley vociferated his mine, and went instantly up stairs to give the necessary

elucidation of the mystery. The serjeant then went below with Mr. Talley, who explained how and where the blows were given : and shewed him how exactly the end of the mop-stick corresponded with the marks it had made in the ceiling.

On examining a narrow chimney, a stout willow bludgeon was found, forked at one end, for the convenience of holding perpendicularly, which, like the mop-stick talisman, was likewise jagged and beaten at the extremity, and was also covered with plaister and white-wash. The serjeant placed the stick under his feet, and, by a violent effort, broke it, saying, he was determined that no more knavery should be practised with that instrument.

So much for the knocking. Now for Sally and the monster.

Taylor, we have before said, slept in the adjoining room to Sally. This young man was a wag of the first order ; and that he might carry his talent to the utmost pitch of its original direction, he placed himself, while at Honiton, (where he lived with Mr. Sellon, the grocer,) under the tuition of the celebrated Moon, who, by the bye, conjured himself, like Mr. Ingleby, into the possession of a very snug little estate, not far from Honiton. Having become a satellite to this Moon, Taylor was entrusted with the conduct of all the secrets of confederacy, and became versed in the various arts of necromancy, from the occult exercise of telling the thoughts of people, to the simple contrivance of shaking bed-curtains. Thus qualified he came to Sampford, where his father resided, who being peremptory in dispensing with the filial attentions of his son, his brother-in-law, Chave, received him into his premises. Here he displayed his cabalistic attainments ; and having ascertained Sally's thoughts, he found them so congenial with his own, that he admitted her to participate in all the secrets of confederacy.

[Mr. Taylor solemnly and voluntarily swore to the fol-

lowing effect :—" That he never saw Mr. Moon exhibit but three times in his life ; that he never was in his company but twice in his life ; that he never was under Mr. Moon's tuition one hour." Sworn before me, 27th of September, 1810. J. GOVETT, Mayor of Tiverton.]

Chave's apprehension of being obliged to turn out of his house, we have already noticed ; and the hope of deterring Mr. Talley from such a determination, by raising a formidable objection to his finding a future tenant, together with the expectation of so effectually depreciating the value of the premises, in case they were sold, as to be enabled to purchase them at a very small sum, constituted the obvious motives for the organization of this infamous plot ; which, no doubt, was suggested by Taylor, and rendered irresistible by the assured confederacy of Sally.

The slaps which Mr. Colton heard in the dark, had been inflicted by the girl herself. Several gentlemen who sat up were perfectly satisfied of this ; and, if the fact wanted confirmation, her continuing to sleep in a situation where she was nightly attacked by a powerful and invisible hand, is alone conclusive on that point. We doubt whether Mr. Colton himself, though provided with his Greek Testament, on which he made the family swear (sapient man, to make them swear in Greek !) would have been content to sleep in the same room for months together under such circumstances. Two intelligent ladies from Tiverton, also slept at the house a few nights before ; but as they would neither be kept in the dark, nor put their heads under the bed-clothes, which they were advised to do, they were entirely undisturbed.

The story of the bear without claws, the inexpressible weight of the monster, and all the rest of the childish trumpery, by which Mr. Colton rendered himself the bugbear of our nurseries, were all the offspring of the original

plot; and the IMP which Chave informed Mr. R. (a very worthy gentleman of Tiverton), he had twice caught in his arms, but which was too strong for him to hold, was of the same base origin.

It will be recollected that Mr. Colton promised to give a considerable sum to the poor of his parish whenever the circumstances he stated, should be proved to have been the work of human agency; in other terms, when he should be satisfied that they were not the effects of witchcraft. This sum, at one time, he fixed at 100*l*. but the reward was soon considerably lowered.

It is a matter which must be very surprising to the public, and which, but for one little anecdote, would have been equally astonishing to us, that Mr. Colton should be so amused—so absolutely infatuated with Sally and her monster above stairs, that he never should have explored the premises underneath, or have ascertained the several communications from the rooms below to the upper part of the house: The building is a very ancient one, and is, what carpenters call, battened from top to bottom, from one extremity of the premises to the other. This battening consists of pieces of timber inserted in the walls and partitions, within which the stone or other principal materials of the walls are placed, and assist in their support.—Thus a blow made on the battening, even at a considerable distance, in whatever way it might be struck, would be heard throughout all its connecting joints, and it was in this way that some of the blows had been effected, and which Mr. Colton was so silly as to affirm were impossible to be produced in a stone wall. From this construction of the house too; proceeded the facility of shaking every room and window it contained. Mr. Talley produced these magical effects, as Mr. Colton believed them to be, in the presence of several persons, by agitating different parts of the floor.

All this any mason's apprentice, however stupid, must

well know; and it is a pity that Mr. Colton had not been brought up to some such useful exertion, or other handicraft employment, instead of having been designed to flourish as a Greek scholar, and becoming an incumbrance on the church, of which, judging from his conduct on this occasion, it might be happily relieved without the least danger to its interests.

When this Reverend Gentleman commenced the statement which accompanied his affidavit, by indulging in his ever-memorable hypothesis, "that a belief in ghosts was favourable to virtue," several smiled at his folly and pitied his credulity. Many an honest man has been misled by the artifices of rogues, but no honest man will persist in an error when the truth is presented to him in the simple garb of self-evident facts. Having given him credit for sincerity in the impressions which had occurred to him from his visitations to Sampford, charity led all to hope that he would have taken the earliest opportunity of undeceiving the public, whose understandings he had grossly insulted by his specious affidavit. Instead of this, he allowed a whole month to elapse, though he had been no less than fifteen times to the premises, and suffered the poison of his superstition to settle in the minds of ignorant country people, and young children, without the slightest effort towards an honest exposition of the adopted knavery. So far indeed from making such attempt, he had strove all in his power to suppress this discovery: he published an appendix to his narrative, and the following affidavit closed this extraordinary appendix.

"Thursday, September 27th, 1810, John Chave, William Taylor, James Dodge, and Sally Case, voluntarily make oath this day as follows:—That they are intirely ignorant of the cause of all those extraordinary circumstances that have and are occurring in the house of Mr. Chave, in the parish of Sampford. Also, that they have never made in or on any part of the premises, any sounds or noises, by day or



night, by blows or knockings, either with or without an instrument, in order to induce any one human being whatever to believe, or even to think, that there was any thing unaccountable or supernatural in the house. Also, that they have never requested any other person so to do, and that they firmly believe no such attempts have been made by others. Also, that they have repeatedly heard in mid-day most violent and loud noises in the house, when numerous persons have been assembled, some in the upper, and some in the lower apartments, at the same time; and all of them anxious and eager to discover the cause. Also, that the marks on the ceiling have been made by the persons trying, but in vain, to imitate the same sounds. Also, that to the best of their knowledge and belief, there are no subterraneous passages in or about the house.'—Sworn before me, the 27th of September, 1810.

“ J. GOVETT, Mayor of Tiverton.”

Among these opinions, we have been well informed, that Mr. Colton, when at college, principally ranked his attachment to the Manichean Philosophy, and actually penned a Treatise in support of the mummeries of its founder Manes ! This at once accounts for his bold offer of giving money to the poor of his parish, when the Sampford Conspiracy should have been proved to be the contrivance of human agency. This accounts for his belief in the invisible agency of Demons; and this accounts for his unwillingness to give any explanation or statement of the facts of which he must have been fully satisfied. Mr. Talley lives within half a mile of him—is a person of considerable property—bears a most irreproachable character, and will swear, not on a Greek Testament, but on an English Bible, if required, to all the facts we have stated, in regard to his detection of the plot. It was wished that it would have ended here, but Mr. Chave had like to have paid dearly at the hands of an unruly

mob; for on Monday April 22, 1811, a disturbance of a very serious nature occurred at Sampford Peverell. The annual fair for the sale of cattle, &c. was held there on that day. On the Saturday preceding, a number of the workmen employed in excavating the bed of the Grand Western Canal, assembled at Wellington, for the purpose of obtaining change for the payment of their wages; many of them indulged in inordinate drink, and committed various excesses at Tiverton, and other places, to which they had gone for the purpose above stated. On Monday, the fair-day at Sampford seemed to afford a welcome opportunity for the gratification of their tumultuary disposition. Much rioting took place in the course of the day, and towards evening, a body of these men, consisting of not less than 300, had assembled in the village. Mr. Chave was met on the road, and recognized by some of the party: opprobrious language was applied to him, but whether on that subject, or not, we have not been informed. The rioters followed him to the house, the windows of which they broke; and apprehensive of further violence, Mr. Chave considered it necessary for his defence, to discharge a loaded pistol at the assailants. This unfortunately took effect, and one man fell dead on the spot. A pistol was also fired by a person within the house, which so severely wounded another man, that his life was despaired of. A carter employed by Mr. Chave, was most dreadfully beaten by the mob, and many outrages committed before it could be stopped.

The inhabitants of Devonshire seem more inclined to believe in the marvellous than any other county; not satisfied with a ghost at Sampford, and believing in the notions of Joanna Southcott, a countrywoman, but a child, Ann Taylor, the daughter of a respectable yeoman in the parish of Tiverton, showed signs of making a second prophetess, only she died too soon. They say (her family and six witnesses) she had a trance for six days, after her recovery from which,

she unfolded many precious things which she desired might be printed ; but dying in reality in the mean time, her voice was heard, when the whole family was assembled at dinner, and while she was safely nailed down in her coffin, calling out—"Father, it is not printed !" The papers were afterwards printed, and one of them deposited in the coffin, since which, it is stated the corpse has never uttered a word. Though the Rev. William Vowles, preached and published a sermon in Steps Meeting, Tiverton, June 26th, 1814, immediately after Ann Taylor died, quoting many authorities for his belief in the truth of the story, he afterwards admitted it was all a trick played off by the servant maid, who turned out to be an adept in such tricks, it having been learned, that at two places she had lived in before, the houses were troubled with astonishing noises, &c., but on her departure from these services, all fearful visitations ceased. "This damsel may in time turn out a profitable speculation for some *Ghost seer*."

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## THE LONG-TAILED STALLION

OF AUGUSTUS II. KING OF POLAND.

THE tail and mane of this horse, exhibit an extraordinary rarity, and excite a doubt whether they may not have been the effect of some artificial means: otherwise, how happens it that the hair of no other animal of this species, should have attained such a wonderful length? The stuffed hide of this horse is preserved in the armoury at Dresden ; the colour is cream pye-balled, the length of the mane is nine ells, and of the tail twelve. This horse belonged to Augustus II. king of Poland, who rode him only on extraordinary occasions, when the mane was borne by pages, and the tail by grooms ; when he stood in the stable, his hair was tied up in bags.



*The Moor G. and the stall 12 Ells in length.*

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bricklayer), as a labourer; and, being tall of her age, when about fourteen years old, she enlisted as a soldier into the 15th Light Dragoons. Probably her extreme youth and healthy appearance might occasion a laxity of attention, for she passed muster without her sex being discovered. In the course of two months she learned her exercise sufficiently for all the purposes of parade; the rough-riding master declaring her the best rider in the squad of recruits with whom she was taught. She remained with the 15th Light Dragoons, in which she progressively attained the ranks of corporal and sergeant, for twenty-one years, her sex all the time remaining a secret to every one. Perhaps the care she was under of guarding it, had the good effect of producing that regularity and orderly conduct which recommended the pretended "William Roberts" to the favour and protection of the officers, and procured her promotion. When she had been a soldier twenty-one years, the Colonel of the regiment tendered her discharge, which she demurred the acceptance of; but being under size, by her own consent, she was transferred to the 37th regiment of foot, which regiment she joined in 1800, at the island of St. Vincent's, in the West Indies, where, soon after, she was taken seriously ill, (for the first time, in her military career), of the yellow fever, when wanting some of those attentions which would inevitably lead to a discovery of her sex, she was obliged to entrust the secret she had so well kept, to the wife of a sergeant, at a time she expected nothing but death. She however recovered, and having no longer even a nominal claim to manhood, she was obliged to resume feminine habiliments; but still enamoured of a military life, as she could no longer be a soldier herself, she became, in May, 1801, the wife of one, a private in the 37th foot, of the name of Taylor, by whom this Amazon has since had three children; still following the fortune of war, through various climates, during which she was with her

husband, two years in a prison in France, from which they were released in July, in consequence of the peace. On the day she landed from the cartel, her husband died; and this Martial Heroine is now a widow, still anxious, as she says, to follow a camp, as the most pleasant life which she can conceive. In the course of her military career, she has visited many distant parts of the globe, and has been in many actions; and received several wounds, which, however, were not severe, and were in parts of the body which did not betray her sex. A scar from a sabre, which graces her head, and the mark where a musket ball was extracted from her leg, are honourable testimonials of her service; but she says, that the two years she spent in a French prison, were far more difficult to support, and did her constitution more injury than her voyages to the East and West Indies, her march from the Red Sea through Egypt, or her campaigns in Flanders, in Spain, and in Italy. She is, however, in excellent spirits, and "fights her battles o'er again," with all the ardour of Goldsmith's old veteran, who

"Shoulder'd his crutch, and shew'd how fields were won."

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### THE DWARF STONE.

#### A SINGULAR CURIOSITY.

In Hoy, one of the Orkney Islands, there is a very remarkable stone, called the Dwarf Stone, thirty-six feet long, eighteen broad, and nine thick. It is completely hollowed within, having an entrance on one side, about two feet square, with a stone of the same dimensions lying near it, which probably was intended for a door. Within, at the south end of it, is the form of a bed and pillow, large enough for two persons, neatly cut out of the stone. At the north end is another bed or couch; and in the middle is a fire-

place, with a hole above it, for a chimney. The marks of the workman's tool are very evident, and it is generally supposed to have been a hermitage.

*Smith's Wonders*, Vol. I. p. 74.

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### HANGING IN SPORT.

*The following are the particulars of the dreadful effects Gaming has on the mind of some people in low life: after losing all, they are willing to give up life also.*

ON Wednesday evening, June 5th, 1812, one of the most extraordinary investigations took place before Mr. Nares, the sitting Magistrate, at Bow-street, that ever disgraced a civilized country, respecting two beings in the shape of men, whose conduct proved that they could not possess intellects superior to beasts. It appeared, that on the same evening as Croker, belonging to the Office, was passing along the Hampstead-road, he observed at a short distance before him, two men on a wall, and immediately after, he saw the taller of them, a stout man, about six feet high, hanging by his neck from a lamp-post attached to the wall, being that instant tied up, and turned off deliberately by the short man. This very unexpected and extraordinary sight astonished and alarmed the officer; he made up to the spot with all possible speed, and just after he arrived there, the tall man, who had been hanged, fell to the ground. Croker produced his staff, and said he was an officer, and demanded to know of the other man the cause of such extraordinary conduct; in the mean time, the man who had been hanged recovered from the effects of his suspension, got up, and on finding Croker interfering, gave him a violent blow on the nose, which nearly knocked him backwards. The short man was then endeavouring to make off; however, the offi-



er procured assistance, and both the men were secured, and brought to the above Office, when the account the fellows gave of themselves was, that they worked together on Canals. They had been in company together on Wednesday afternoon, had tossed up with half-pence for money, and afterwards for their clothes: the tall man, who was hanged, won the other's jacket, trowsers, and shoes. They then, in the most wanton manner, and worse than brutes, tossed up who should hang each other. The short one won that toss, and they got upon the wall—the one to submit, and the other to carry their savage conduct into execution on the lamp-iron. They both agreed in this statement. The tall one, who had been hanged, said, if he had won the toss, he should have hanged the other.

Mr. Nares and Mr. Birnie, the Magistrates, both expressed their horror and disgust at such conduct and language; and ordered the man who had been hanged, to find bail for the violent and unjustifiable assault on the officer, and the short one for hanging the other. Neither of them being provided with bail, they were committed to Bridewell for trial, at the next Clerkenwell Sessions, which took place September 14th, 1812, when Thomas Shelton was put to the bar, charged with having assaulted and violently beaten William Croker, an officer of the police, in the execution of his duty.

William Croker stated, that at a late hour of the night, as mentioned in the indictment, as he was going his rounds in company with another patrol, he perceived a man hanging from a lamp-iron. This was in the neighbourhood of Camden Town. The novelty of the sight brought him to the spot, and just as he had approached it, the rope or bandage, by which the person was tied up, gave way, and he fell to the ground, when the witness came up and instantly seized him; upon which he assailed the prosecutor with fury, struck him, knocked him down, and, but for the inter-

vention of another patrôle, he must have been in the most imminent danger. He was secured, and it then appeared that he had consented voluntarily to be hanged, under the following circumstances :—It seems that there was another man in his company, and it turned out that the two together had been gambling, first for their money, and at length for their clothes ; but the defendant having lost both money and clothes, then staked his life, and agreed, that, if he should lose that, his opponent should have the pleasure of hanging him. He lost, and accordingly submitted to be hanged, and his adversary having tied him up to a lamp-post, left him to his fate ; but the noose not having been fixed in a workmanlike manner, it gave way, and the defendant was precipitated to the earth, and by the intervention of the prosecutor, and the other officer, saved from an untimely death. For this act of humanity the officer was assaulted as above-mentioned.

The case being proved by other witnesses, the defendant was called upon for his defence.

He was a tall well-looking young man, a labourer, and he acknowledged the material parts of the facts alleged against him by Croker, the prosecutor, and said, that he had been gambling on the night mentioned in the indictment, and lost his money and clothes, and then staked his life, which he also considered forfeited, and believed that he was in honour bound to be hanged, and therefore consented. But he strongly denied that any assault was committed on the witness Croker, until he (Croker) had first assaulted him.

The court and jury expressed the utmost astonishment at this singular case, and, after a few words from the chairman, he was found Guilty.

As soon as the defendant was found guilty, his wife came into court and implored mercy for him, assuring their Worships that she would be answerable for it that he should

never desire to be hanged again. The court, in consideration of his wife and family, awarded a slight punishment, and discharged him.

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A CURIOUS ACCOUNT OF THE CANCER MAJOR, OR  
SEA CRAB;  
WITH EXPERIMENTS ON THAT WONDERFUL ANIMAL, BY  
MR. PETER COLLINSON, F. R. S.

THE cancer major, or largest species of crabs, have their chief abode from 20 to 40 fathoms water; they herd together in distinct tribes, and have their separate haunts for feeding and breeding, and will not associate with their neighbours. This has been carefully tried, by taking a crab, and marking its shell, and carrying it two or three miles distance, and leaving it amongst the same species; this crab has found its way back to its old home, and has been caught by the same fisherman that carried it.

They will live many months without food, when confined in a basket, if salt water can reach them occasionally, and not waste. Once a year they lose or cast their shells. Against this extraordinary change, they choose a close and well-secured retreat in the cavities of rocks, and under stones: there they creep in, and wait, till by degrees the parts are disengaged; which is effected by withdrawing their legs from their old shells, leaving them, and the upper part of their body-shell behind. In this naked state they make a very odd appearance, being an ill-shaped lump of jelly-like substance, which gradually hardens into a shell, a size larger than the old one; for this is the way of growth appointed for this animal, and others of the crustaceous species. But what is most surprising, this large species of crab has a power in itself voluntarily to crack and break its

own legs or claws, and drop them off. The re-production of the legs of craw-fish has been mentioned in the History of the Royal Academy of Sciences, with some just remarks on the growth of these creatures' shells ; but he knows not of any writer that has taken notice of this strange event of the crab.

Mr. Benjamin Cook, at Newport, in the Isle of Wight, F. R. S. informed Mr. C. of this marvellous property in the great crab ; but he could not comprehend it, till he saw the experiment tried on two crabs ; then he was soon convinced of the truth of the fact ; for in a few minutes the legs all dropped off one after another.

This the crab will do in any position ; but the easiest method is to lay it on its back, and take a pair of strong iron pincers, and break the shell, and bruise the flesh of the 3rd or 4th joint of its small leg : after it has received the hurt, it bleeds, and gives signs of pain, by moving its leg from side to side ; but afterwards holds it quite still, in a direct and natural position, without touching any part of its body, or its other legs, with it. Then on a sudden, with a gentle crack, the wounded part of the leg drops off at the second joint, or interodium, from its body. The great legs are cast off in the same manner, but are not so easily laid hold on as the small ones. Those who have not seen this wonderful operation may reasonably conclude, that the leg is cast out of its joint or socket ; but it is quite otherwise ; for it cracks and breaks off in the smoothest part of the joint, and the rim of the body-shell is no ways assistant to it.

To try what effect increase of pain would have in this work, a small hole was pierced in the great legs, and then a pointed iron was put in to lacerate the inclosed muscle : the consequence was answerable to expectation ; symptoms of greater pain ensued, and the leg was cast off, with greater violence.

It is really amazing and inconceivable, by what power or contrivance in itself, so wonderful an operation can be per-

formed by the crab, as voluntarily to crack and break so hard a shell, and its muscles, and then cast off its legs. The small diameter of its joints, the disposition of the fibres, and a very small circular fossa, may contribute greatly to accelerate the work ; but yet the main spring of action seems beyond the reach of human comprehension. The whole performance is so curious, and so singular a fact in the history of nature, that it may well deserve a nicer consideration, by those that have greater abilities, and more leisure, for such inquiries.

*Phil. Trans.* Vol. 44, p. 70.



Bountiful nature having supplied the sea crab with such a wonderful power, we shall now give a history of a species of crab that lives on land, and show that they are not exceeded in their economy by the former.

#### LAND CRAB.

These crabs inhabit the Bahama islands, as well as most lands between the tropics. They are of various sizes, the largest about six inches wide ; they walk sideways, like the sea crab, and are shaped like them ; but they differ considerably in colour ; some being black, some yellow, some red, and others variegated with red, white, and yellow mixed. Some of these are poisonous, and several people have died by eating them, particularly the black kind. The light coloured are reckoned best ; and when full of flesh are very well tasted. In some of the sugar islands they are eaten without danger ; and are no small help to the negro slaves, who would frequently fare hard without them.

These animals not only live in a kind of orderly society in their retreats among the mountains, but regularly once a year march down to the sea-side, in a body of some millions at a time. As they multiply in great numbers, they choose the month of April or May to begin their expedition ; and

then sally out by thousands from the stumps of hollow trees, from the clefts of rocks, and from the holes which they dig for themselves under the surface of the earth. At that time the whole ground is covered with this band of adventurers, inasmuch that a person cannot set his foot down without treading upon them. The sea is their place of destination, and to that they direct their march, with the utmost precision. No geometrician could send them to their destined station by a shorter course, for they neither turn to the right nor left, whatever obstacles may intervene; and even if they meet with a house, they will attempt to scale the walls, to keep the unbroken tenor of their way. But, though this be a general order of their route, they, upon other occasions, are obliged to conform to the face of the country; and if it is intersected with rivers, they are then seen to wind along the course of the stream.

The procession sets forward from the mountains with the regularity of an army under an experienced commander. They are commonly divided into three battalions; of which the first consists of the strongest and boldest males, who, like pioneers, march forward to clear the route, and face the greatest dangers. They are often obliged to halt for want of rain, and to go into the most convenient encampment till the weather changes. The main body of the army is composed of females, which never leave the mountains till the rain is set in for some time, and then descend in regular battalions, being formed into columns of fifty paces broad, and three miles deep, and so close that they almost cover the ground. The rear guard follows three or four days after; a straggling undisciplined tribe, consisting of males and females, but not so vigorous as the former. The night is their chief time of proceeding; but if it rains by day, they do not fail to profit by the occasion, and they continue to move forward in their slow uniform manner. When the sun shines hot upon the surface of the ground, they make a

general halt, and wait till the cool of the evening. When terrified, they march back, in a confused disorderly manner, holding up their nippers, with which they sometimes tear off a piece of the skin, and leave the weapon where they inflicted the wound. They even try to intimidate their enemies; for they often clatter their nippers together, as if to threaten those who disturb them. But though they thus strive to be formidable to man, they are much more so to each other; for they are possessed of one most unsocial property, which is, that if any of them by accident is maimed in such a manner as to be incapable of proceeding, the rest fall upon and destroy it on the spot, and then pursue their journey.

When after a fatiguing march, and escaping a thousand dangers, (for they are sometimes three weeks in getting to the shore) they have arrived at their destined port, they prepare to cast their spawn. They have no sooner reached the shore, than they go to the edge of the water, and let the waves wash over their bodies two or three times. This seems only a preparation for bringing the spawn to maturity; for without farther delay, they withdraw to seek a lodging upon some land. In the mean time the spawn grows larger, is excluded out of the body, and sticks to the barbs under the tail. This bunch is seen as big as a hen's egg, and exactly resembles the roes of herrings. In this state, they once more seek the shore, and shaking off their spawn into the water, leave accident to bring it into maturity. At this time whole shoals of hungry fish are at the shore, in expectation of this annual supply; and immediately about two-thirds of the eggs are devoured by these rapacious invaders. The eggs that escape are hatched under the sand; and soon after, millions of these little crabs are seen quitting the shore, and slowly travelling up to the mountains. The old ones, however, are not so active to return; they have become so feeble and lean, that they can hardly creep along,

and their flesh at this time changes its colour. Most of them therefore are obliged to continue in the flat parts of the country till they recover, making holes in the earth, which they cover at the mouth with leaves and dirt, that no air may enter. There they throw off their old shells, which they leave quite whole; the place where they opened on the belly being unseen. At that time they are quite naked, and almost without motion for six days together, when they become so fat as to be delicious food. They have then under their stomach, four large white stones, which gradually decrease in proportion as the shell hardens, and when they come to perfection, are not to be found. It is at this time that the animals are seen slowly making their way back; which is commonly performed in six weeks.

When possessed of its retreat in the mountains, the land crab is impregnable; for, only subsisting upon vegetables, it seldom ventures out, and its habitation being in the most inaccessible places, it remains for the greater part of the season in perfect security. It is only when impelled by the desire of bringing forth its young, and when compelled to descend into the flat country, that it is taken. At that time the natives wait for their descent in eager expectation, and destroy thousands; but, disregarding their bodies, they only seek for that small spawn which lies on each side of the stomach within the shell, of about the thickness of a man's thumb. They are much more valuable upon their return after they have cast their shells; for being covered with a skin resembling soft parchment, almost every part, except the stomach, may be eaten. They are taken in holes, by feeling for them, with an instrument, and are sought after by night, when on their journey, by flambeaux. The instant these animals perceive themselves attacked, they throw themselves on their backs, and with their claws, pinch most terribly whatever they happen to fasten on. But the dexterous crab-catcher takes



them by the hinder legs, in such a manner, that the nippers cannot touch them, and thus he throws them into his bag. Sometimes also they are caught, when they take refuge in the bottoms of holes in the rocks by the sea side, by covering the mouth of the hole, to prevent their getting out, and then, soon after, the tide enters the hole, and the animal is found, upon its ebbing, drowned in its retreat.

*Phil. Trans. Fabricius, Gregory, &c.*

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### LONGEVITY.

ALTHOUGH several instances of long life appear in the pages of our Museum, we cannot refrain to insert a complete list of every one to be found on record. Many interesting articles having come to hand, enable us to do it in a chronological order,—we shall begin with the oldest, and continue it down to the age of 100.

THOMAS CARN—207,

Is the oldest man on record: according to the parish register of St. Leonard, Shoreditch, he died the 28th of January, 1588,—see page 66, of Vol. III. of our Work.

In the PETERSBURGH GAZETTE of October, 1813, an old man died, in the diocese of Ekaterinoslan, at the patriarchal age of between 200 and 205 years.

DON JOHN TAVEIRA DE LIMA—198,

Knight of the Order of Christ, died in Portugal, in 1738. He had been from a lad, in the service of the crown; from a common soldier, he passed successively through the degrees of ensign, adjutant, captain, major, colonel, and lieutenant-general. He was then preferred to the government of the city of Moncoan; and his Portuguese Majesty, at last, in consideration of his long and faithful services,

rewarded him with the patent and pay of a brigadier of all his armies.

GILLOUR MACCRRAINE—190.

Mr. Macnicol, minister of the parish, in the Isle of Jura, observes, in his report to Sir John Sinclair, and inserted in his Code of Health, Vol. II. p. 256, 1807,—“ I am in possession of a book, printed at London in the year 1720; the author's name I cannot say, as the title page is lost; but it gives a short description of the counties of England and Scotland, and of the laws of the kingdom. In his account of Jura, he says, that Gillour Maccraine spent nine-score Christmasses in the same house, which exactly coincides with the tradition of the island.”

KENTIGERN—185,

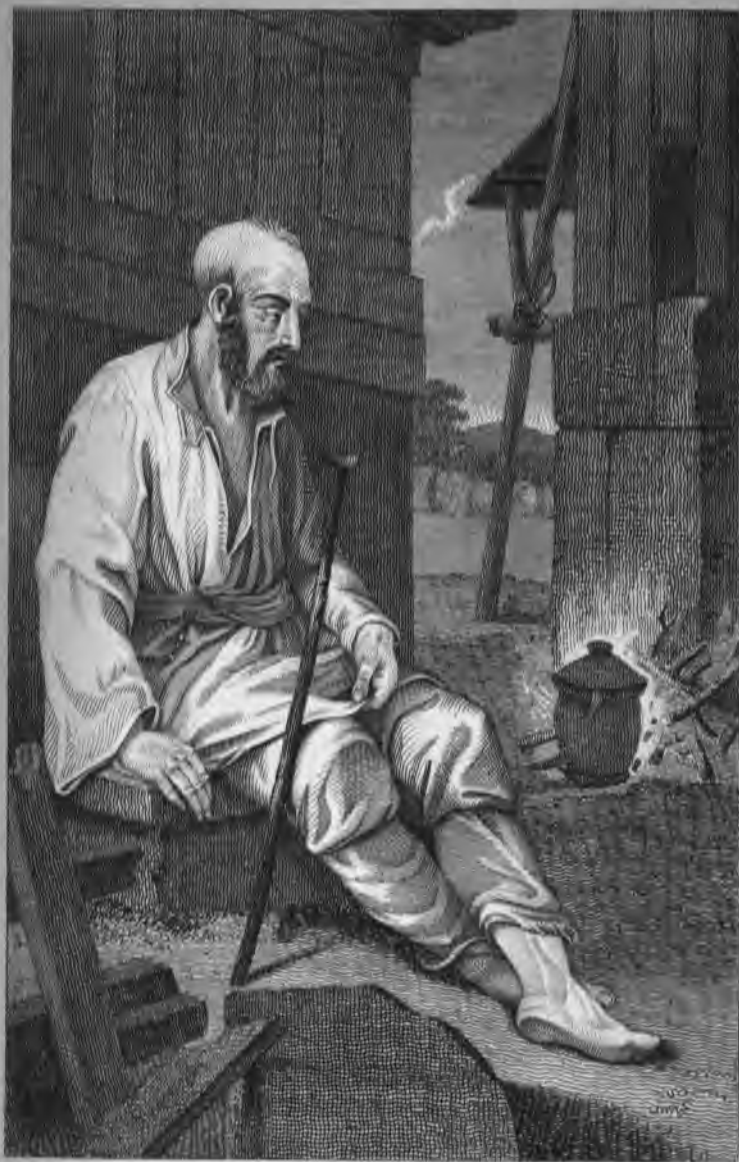
as mentioned by Spotswood, (afterwards called St. Mongah, or Mungo, from whom the famous well in Wales is named), who never tasted wine or strong drink, after he came to years of understanding, and slept on the ground; notwithstanding which, he lived to the above very extraordinary age.

JOHN BALDECK—185,

Abbot of Kilchberg, died in 1348. In his old age, he shed his teeth, and cut new ones, and his grey hair turned black again. His grave is shewn in a church at Munster, in the canton of Lucern, in Switzerland.

PETER ZORTAN—185,

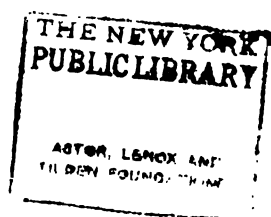
an old Hungarian. He is noticed in a Dutch Dictionary, entitled, “ Het algemeen Historich Woonderbok, &c. as follows: Czartan (Petrasch) was born in 1537, at Kofrock, a village four miles from Temeswaer, in Hungary, where he had lived 180 years. When the Turks took Temeswaer from the Christians, he kept his father's cattle. A few days before his death he walked, with the assistance of a stick, to the post-



*PETRETSCH ZORTAN, in the 185<sup>th</sup> Year of his Age.  
He died on the 5<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> 1727.*

*From a Picture formerly belonging to the Percys Earls of Northumberland & now in  
the Possession of William Blayville Esq<sup>r</sup> of Welbeck Street London.*

*Published October 6<sup>th</sup> 1804 by B. S. Kirby B. London: Henry Ford. 5Pence.*





*JOHN ROVIN, in the 172<sup>d</sup> & SARAH his wife  
In the 164<sup>th</sup> Year of their respective Ages.  
From a Picture formerly belonging to the Percys, Earls of Northumberland, & now in  
the Possession of William Bosville, Esq.<sup>r</sup> of Welbeck Street, London.*

diet was coarse and sour. In the King's Remembrancer Office, in the Exchequer, there is a record of a deposition in a cause, by English Bill, between Anthony Clark and Smirkson, taken, April 1665, at Kettering, Yorkshire, where Henry Jenkins, of Ellerton-upon-Swale, labourer, aged 157 years, was produced, and deposed as a witness. He departed this life, December 6, 1670, at Ellerton-upon-Swale, and was buried at Bolton, in Yorkshire. In 1743, a monument was erected at Bolton, to his memory, by subscription, with the following epitaph :

“ Blush not, marble, to rescue from oblivion the memory of Henry Jenkins ; a person obscure in birth, but of a life truly memorable ; for he was enriched with the goods of nature, if not of fortune, and happy in the duration, if not variety, of his enjoyments ; and though the partial world despised and disregarded his low and humble state, the eye of Providence beheld and blessed it with a patriarch's health and length of days, to teach mistaken men, these blessings are entailed on temperance, a life of labour, and a mind at ease. He lived to the amazing age of 169 ; was interred here, December 6, 1670, and had this justice done to his memory, 1743.”

#### A RUSSIAN—163.

Dr. Petri, in his work on Esthonia, published at Gotha, (1802) relates, that not far from Polozk, on the frontiers of Livonia, there was still living, in 1796, a Russian, who had served in the thirty years war, and recollected the death of Gustavus Adolphus. He was born under the grandfather of Peter the Great, and had lived during the reigns of eleven sovereigns of Russia. At the battle of Pultowa he was 86 years old. In his 93rd year, he married a third wife, who had a family by him, and their youngest child was 62 years old in 1796. He lived happily with her 50 years. The family of this patriarch consisted, in the last mentioned year,

of 138 persons. At the same time, his oldest surviving grandson was 95, another 93, and his youngest sons 86 and 62; all of them resided in ten houses, and their progenitor, in his 163d year, was still stout and hearty.

**JONAS SURINGTON—159.**

He resided in a small village, near Bergen in Norway, and retained the perfect use of his faculties to the last hour of his extraordinary long life. The day before he died, he assembled his family, and divided his property amongst them. He had been several times married, and left behind a young widow, and several children; his eldest son was 103, and his youngest nine years of age. He died in 1747.

**THOMAS DAMME—154,**

of Leighton, near Minshull, in the palatinate of Chester, as may be seen by his grave-stone, at Church Minshull, on which his age is cut (to prevent mistakes) in words at length. The church register is signed by the Rev. J. Holdford, vicar; and T. Kennerley, and J. Warburton, church-wardens.

The following is copied from the parish register of Church Minshull, in Cheshire :

“ Feb. 20th, 1648—Thomas Damme, buried at Church Minshull, from Leighton, being of the age of seven score and fourteen, born in 1494.”

**JAMES BOWLES—152.**

There is in the possession of Mr. Stokes of Kenilworth, in the county of Warwick, a coffin plate (lately found), on which is the following very remarkable inscription : “ Mr. James Bowles, obiit Aug. 15, 1656, *Ætatis* 152.” The plate, which is tin, has been plated on both sides with silver, and is marked on the back with the maker's name, (as is supposed), John Die, January 1807.

## THOMAS PARR—152,

was the son of John Parr, of Winnington, in the parish of Alberbury, in the county of Salop; he was born February 1483, and died November 1635, aged 152, and nine months. At the age of 82 he married his first wife, by whom he had two children, who died young. At the age of 102, he fell in love with Catharine Milton, whom he got with child, and for which he did penance in the church. At the age of 120 he married her, and after that era of life, was able to do any husbandry work, even thrashing corn. He frequently ate by night, as well as by day; was contented with skimmed-milk cheese, coarse bread, small beer, whey; and, what is remarkable, he ate at midnight, a little before he died. He had seen ten kings and queens of England. A few years before his death, he was brought to London, about the end of September 1635, by Thomas, Earl of Arundel, who presented him to King Charles I.; and about the same time, the Countess of Arundel presented a midwife to the Queen, who was 123 years old, and who exercised her profession but two years before. Parr was brought to town by easy journies, and such was the curiosity excited by this old man throughout the different towns, his attendants almost despaired of bringing him safe, the crowds pressed on them so eager to see him; but having succeeded, the Earl of Arundel made him a domestic in his family; he fed high, and drank plentifully of the best wines, by which, after a constant plain and homely diet, the natural functions of the parts of his body were overcharged, his lungs obstructed, and the habit of the whole body quite disordered; in consequence, there could not but speedily ensue a dissolution. If he had not changed his diet, he might possibly have lived many years longer. His body was dissected by Dr. Harvey; it was found to be very fleshy; his heart was thick and fat; his viscera very sound and strong, especially the stomach; his



kidneys were covered with fat, and pretty sound, as was his frame altogether. Taylor, the water-poet, relates the following anecdote of Old Parr's endeavouring to overreach his landlord. "His three leases of 63 years being expired, (of 21 years each), he took his last lease of his landlord, (one *Master Porter*), for his life, which lease he had held for 50 years; but wishing to renew it for his wife's sake, (his landlord being adverse to it), Parr being at this time blind, sitting in his chair, by the fire, his wife looking out of the window, saw the landlord's son coming; he told her to lay a pin on the ground, near his right toe, which she did; when the landlord's son arrived, and after the first salutation, Old Parr said, Wife, is not that a pin which lies at my foot? Truly, husband, quoth she, it is a pin indeed, and she took it up: Master Porter was half in amaze that the old man had recovered his sight again; but it was quickly found to be a witty conceit, to induce his landlord to renew his lease for his wife's sake."

Pliny, the celebrated naturalist, mentions the following instances of persons living in the time of Vespasian.

L. TERENTIUS, of Bononia—150.

M. Aponius, of Arimini—150.

T. Fullonius, Bononiensis—150.

M. Mucius, of Veja—140.

FRANCIS CONSIT—150,

of Burythorpe, near Malton, Yorkshire. He was very temperate in his living, and used great exercise, which, together, by occasionally eating a raw new laid egg, enabled him to attain such extraordinary age. For the last sixty years of his life he was supported by the parish, and retained his senses to the last. He died January, 1768.

ASCLEPIADES—150.

A celebrated physician of Priesa, Bithynia.

**HEN. LYWARCH**—150, a Welsh Bard; contemporary with King Arthur, who died in the year 500. He had twenty-four sons, who all fell resisting the Saxons. His elegy on old age, with their deaths, is still remaining.

**CHRISTIAN JACOBSON DRACKENBURG**—146, of Aarhus, in Denmark; a celebrated and well known character, born November 11, 1626, died October 9, 1772.

**THOMAS WINSLOW, Esq.**—146, of the county of Tipperary in Ireland. He was a colonel in the army. He held the rank of captain in the reign of King Charles 1st, and accompanied Oliver Cromwell into Ireland. Died August, 1766.

**ANN WIGNELL**—146, a free black woman, died at Jamaica in February 1812, at the advanced age of 146 years. She was imported from Africa when 12 years of age, and about 14 years previous to the destruction of Port Royal by the great earthquake in 1692. She had been bed-ridden some time before her decease, but retained her senses until the last.

#### THE COUNTESS OF DESMOND—145.

She was the daughter of the Fitzgeralds of Drumana, in the county of Waterford; and married in the reign of King Edward the Fourth, James, the fourth Earl of Desmond; she was in England the same reign, and danced at court with his brother Richard, then Duke of Gloucester. She was then a widow; for Sir Walter Raleigh says, they held her jointure from all the Earls of Desmond since that time. It appears that she retained her full vigour in a very advanced time of life; for the ruin of the house of Desmond reduced her to poverty, and obliged her to take a journey from Bristol to London, to solicit relief from the Court, at a time she was a hundred and forty. She twice or thrice renewed her teeth, casting her old ones and getting others in their place. She died in the reign of James 1st, in the year 1612.

Mrs. ECKLESTON—143, of Philips-town, King's County, Ireland. Died 1691.

CHARLES M'FINDLEY, Esq.—143, of Tipperary, in Ireland; was a captain in the service of King Charles 1st. He died June, 1773.

JACQUES GUN—140, of a village in Languedoc in France; died in the year 1759, the year before his wife, Florette Rour, died, aged 118. They had been married 79 years.

WILLIAM LELAND, Esq.—140, of Lisnekea, in Ireland. Though he lived to such a great age he never was sick, nor lost the use of any of his faculties till the hour of his death. He died January, 1732.

SARAH ANDERSON—140,

at Providence-grove, St. John's, Jamaica; at the extraordinary age of 140 years, a free black woman, a native of Guinea, of the Congo country. She arrived on that island in 1687, during the government of the Duke of Albemarle, whom she remembered; and was then, according to her own statement, about fourteen. She was bed-ridden for the last three years, but retained a good appetite, could hear, see, and converse with cheerfulness, to the last moment of her existence. She left 55 children, grand-children, great grand-children, and great great grand-children; 25 of whom attended her to the grave. She died September 20, 1813.

Mr. DOBSON—139, of Hatfield, farmer. He used much exercise, and lived temperately. Ninety-one children and grand-children attended his funeral. He died August, 1766.

Mr. EVANS—139, of Spital-street, Spital-fields, London; had all his senses to the last; and was seven years old when King Charles was beheaded. Died 1780.

Mrs. CLUM—138, near Litchfield, Staffordshire; resided in the same house one hundred and three years. She left one son and two daughters, the youngest upwards of one hundred years. She died 1772.

Mr. FAIRBROTHER—138, of Wigan, Lancashire: died May, 1770.

JONATHAN HARTOP—138,

of Aldborough, near Boroughbridge, Yorkshire. His father and mother died of the plague, in their house in the Minories, 1666; and he perfectly well remembered the great fire of London. He was short in stature; had been married five times, and left seven children, twenty-six grand-children, seventy-four great grand-children, and one hundred and forty great great grand-children. He could read to the last without spectacles, and play at cribbage with the most perfect recollection. On Christmas-day 1789, he walked nine miles, to dine with one of his great grand-children. He ate but little, and his only beverage was milk. He enjoyed an uninterrupted flow of spirits. The third wife of this very old man, was an illegitimate daughter of Oliver Cromwell, who gave with her a portion of about five hundred pounds. He possessed a fine portrait of the usurper by Cooper, for which Mr. Hollis offered him three hundred pounds, but was refused. Mr. Hartop lent the great Milton fifty pounds soon after the Restoration, which the bard returned him with honour, though not without much difficulty, as his circumstances were very low. Mr. Hartop would have declined receiving it, but the pride of the poet was equal to his genius, and he sent the money with an angry letter, which was found among the curious possessions of that venerable old man. He died 1791.

A PEASANT at POSEN—138, in Poland, was living in 1805. See further particulars, Volume III. of this Work, page 377.

JOHN ROUSEY, Esq.—138, of the Island of Distrey, in Scotland. At the age of one hundred years, his son was born, who afterwards inherited his estate. Died 1734.

WILLIAM SHARPLY—138, of Knockall, county of Roscommon. Though at such an age, he was able to follow his profession of lath-making, until within six weeks of his

death, and was remarkable till then for carrying a log of uncommon bulk to his place of work. He lived well and regular, but in no wise abstemiously. Died 1757.

MARGARET FOSTER—137, near Brampton, Cumberland. Her daughter died a short time before, aged one hundred and five. She died 1769.

MR. ROBERTSON—137, of Edinburgh. He had always lived in the family of the Lords, in the capacity of inspector of the lead works for four complete generations, besides the time elapsed since the birth of the present possessor, who erected an elegant monument with an inscription, celebrating the zeal and fidelity of so old and worthy a servant during the space of one hundred and twenty years. He died 1793.

MR. MOWAT—136, Surgeon, at Langholm, shire of Dumfries in Scotland. He died February 21, 1776.

JOHN MOUNT—136, of Langholm, Dumfries, Scotland. Died March, 1776.

CATHERINE NOON, otherwise MOONY—136, near the city of Tuam, in Ireland. Her husband died aged one hundred and twenty-eight, leaving a numerous issue. She died June, 1768.

MARGARET PATTEN—136.

A Scotch woman, of St. Margaret's workhouse, city of Westminster. She always enjoyed good health till within a few days of her dissolution; and for many years subsisted mostly on milk. There is an inscription against the wall of the church-yard in Tothill-fields, Westminster, "Near this place lieth Margaret Patten, who died June 26th, 1739, in the parish workhouse, aged 136 years."

JAMES SHEILE—136, of Bally Baden, county of Kilkenny, in Ireland, farmer. Died 1759.

MRS. THOMPSON—136, near Dublin. She was very active; and by a regular mode of living, together with much exercise, attained so great an age. Died 1796.

**FRANCIS ANGE—134**, of Maryland. He was born at Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire. He remembered the death of Charles I. and left England soon after; his wife at eighty had a son, who was thirty-one years of age at his father's decease, to which time his faculties were perfect and memory strong. He died September, 1767.

**JOHN MOUNT LANGHAM—134**, of Dumfries, in Scotland. Died 1776.

**Mr. BUTLER—133**, of the Golden Vale, near Kilkenny, in Ireland. He was related to the family of the Duke of Ormond; could walk well, and mount his horse with great agility to near the time of his death; and thus by much exercise in walking and riding, attained good health. He died 1769.

**Mrs. KUTHER—133**, of Newnham, Gloucestershire. She retained her senses till within fourteen days of her death. She left three daughters, the eldest aged one hundred and eleven; the second one hundred and ten; the youngest one hundred and nine. Also seven great, and great great grandchildren. She died 1772.

**ELIZABETH MARCHANT—133**, of Hamilton-Baun, in Ireland. Died 1761.

**ANN FOSTER—132**, of Newcastle. Died 1777.

**GUSTAVUS HOLME—132**, a Dover pilot; was buried at Stoke, near Canterbury. Died 1685.

**ALEXANDER M'CULLOCH—132**, near Aberdeen. He was a soldier in the service of Oliver Cromwell, and the three following reigns. He died 1757.

**JOHN MAXWELL—132**, near Keswick Lake, Cumberland; he walked ten miles a few days before his death, and enjoyed through his long life, exceeding good health and spirits. He left nine children; the youngest was upwards of sixty. He died 1785.

**WILLIAM ELLIS—131**, of Liverpool, shoemaker: he was

a seaman in the reign of Queen Anne, and a soldier in the reign of George I. Died 1780.

PETER GARDEN—131, of Aucherness, near Edinburgh. He lived in the reigns of King Charles I. Charles II. James II. William and Mary, Queen Anne, George I. II. and III. He very well remembered having been employed in the woods, to cut handles for spears in the civil wars. He died January, 1775.

JOHN PATERSON—131, of Muirkirk, in Scotland. Died 1807.

The Sieur SOMLYADC—131, of Hungary. Died August, 1764.

ELIZABETH TAYLOR—131, of Piccadilly, London. Died March, 1764.

JOSEPH BATTESWORTH, Esq.—130, near Truro, Cornwall. Died 1749.

#### APOLLONIUS—130,

of Tyana, in Cappadocia, a Pythagorean philosopher. At the age of 16 years, he became a strict observer of the rules of Pythagoras, renouncing wine, women, and all sorts of flesh; not wearing shoes, letting his hair grow, and wearing nothing but linen. He soon after set up for a reformer of mankind, and chose for his habitation the temple of Æsculapius, where he is said to have performed many miraculous cures. Philostratus has written the life of Apollonius, in which there are numberless fabulous stories recounted of him. We are told, that he went five years without speaking, and yet during this time, that he stopped many seditions in Cilicia and Pamphylia: that he travelled, and set up for a legislator, and that he gave out that he understood all languages, without having ever learned them; that he could tell the thoughts of men, and understood the oracles which birds gave by their singing. The Heathens were

fond of opposing the pretended miracles of this man to those of our Saviour; and by a treatise which Eusebius wrote against Hierocles, we find that the drift of the latter, in the treatise which Eusebius refutes, had been to draw a parallel betwixt Jesus Christ and Apollonius, in which he gives the preference to this philosopher. He died—95.

JOHN BAYLES—130, was an old button-maker of Northampton. He used constantly to walk to the neighbouring markets with his buttons, within 12 years of his death; but after that, he was decrepid, and carried abroad. There was nothing particular in his diet, but he ate any thing he could get. He died, April 4th, 1706; and a very long account appears of him, by Dr. James Keill, who dissected the body.

*Phil. Trans.*

WILLIAM BEATY, Esq.—130, formerly an officer in the army: he was at the celebrated battle of the Boyne. He died 1774.

DONALD CAMERON—130, of Kinnichlabbar, in Rannach, Scotland. He married at the age of 100, and died 1759.

JEAN CAYETAN—130, of Tesontla, in New Spain, an Indian. She left a son, aged 60 years. She died 1788.

JOHN HILL—130, of Lead-hills, near Edinburgh. He used great exercise on foot, and walked two miles to a christening a short time before his death. He died 1767.

JOHN KING—130, of Noke, Oxfordshire, thrasher. The latter part of his life, he subsisted on charity. He died January, 1796. The same is also represented as dying in Cambridgeshire.

ROBERT M'BRIDE—130, of the island of Herries, in Scotland, fisherman. He died 1780.

DON JUAN DE CASTRO MONTE—130, died in 1790, at San Sebastian de Huaraz, in Peru. He never had any illness, not so much as a trifling indisposition, and retained the perfect use of all his faculties and senses to the last. He never



drank wine, or other strong liquors : with his second wife, who was 96, he lived happily upwards of 80 years.

PETER MESTANEA—130, of the village of Veniel, in the kingdom of Marcia. He was a bachelor, never tasted wine, worked hard, and bathed every morning in the river Segura, from the beginning of spring till it froze. His teeth were sound, and he had never been attacked by any acute distemper. He died 1743.

THOMAS EVANS PRICE—130. He had been a monk of the Abbey of Margam, but had been expelled as a Lollard. In the beginning of January 1604, he had attained the above age ; where he died is not mentioned ; but it appears he was a poet and a prophet, and as the common people think, not a false one, for many of his prophecies are in high repute at this time.

JOHN DE LA SOMET—130, of Virginia. He was a great smoker of tobacco, which, agreeing with his constitution, may not improbably be reckoned the cause of his uninterrupted health and longevity. He died, 1766.

SOPHOCLES, the tragic poet—130.

TERENTIA, Cicero's daughter—130.

JAMES THOMAS—130, of the island of Jamaica. He died 1805.

JOHN WATSON—130, of Limehouse-park, Cheshire, of which he was keeper. He is said to have had a relation who bore a child at 90. He died 1778.

*(To be continued.)*

INTERESTING NARRATIVE OF THE  
LOSS OF THE DUKE OF CUMBERLAND PACKET,  
AT ANTIGUA, IN THE HURRICANE OF 4TH SEPTEMBER, 1804.  
BY AN EYE-WITNESS.

“ On the morning of Monday, the 3d of September, 1804, the Duke of Cumberland packet was lying at anchor in the

road of St. John's, waiting for the mail, which was expected to come on board that day.

"His Majesty's ship *Serapis*, a 44, armed *en flute*, lay about two miles further out, waiting to convoy the packet down to Tortola. The wind had been blowing very fresh from the north during the night, and at noon had considerably increased. His Majesty's ship *De Ruyter*, an old 74, which had lately been brought there to be fitted up as a prison ship, lay at anchor in Deep Bay : she had a very weak crew on board, and made signals of distress to the *Serapis* ; a boat came on board the packet at twelve o'clock, from the latter vessel, requesting the aid of some men, in order to assist them in relieving *De Ruyter* ; but this Captain Lawrence could not with propriety grant.—At this time we struck our top-gallant masts, and at two *p. m.* we let go the best bower anchor, having been hitherto riding with the small bower only.

"The gale continued to increase, and at six o'clock it blew a perfect storm from the N. W. by W. when we struck our yards and top-masts.

"The men had hardly finished this work, when it was discovered that the vessel had parted her best bower cable ; this surprised and alarmed us exceedingly, as the rope was nearly new, and we had been assured that the bottom of the roadstead was a hard sand ; it must have been cut upon a ship's anchor, or on a bed of coral. We immediately bent the remaining part of it to the stream anchor, and the stream cable to the kedge. The wind continued to rage with unabated violence, the ship pitched immoderately, and dreading lest the cable should give way, at ten o'clock we let go the two remaining anchors. Every thing had now been done for the safety of the ship that was in the power of the crew ; the rest we confided to Providence, and having recommended ourselves to the protection of the Almighty, we remained idle, but anxious spectators of the scene before us, and awaited the event in silent dread. To men who were so deeply

interested in the effects of the storm, no scene could be so truly awful ; the wind raged with a violence known only in tropical climates : the rain fell like a deluge, the waves had risen to a most stupendous height, the ship was pitching her fore-castle under water, our best cable was already gone, and we momentarily expected to part the rest : to add to the horrors of our situation, the lightning, flashing now and then, discovered to us, notwithstanding the extreme darkness of the night, that as soon as we should part or drive away from our moorings, a reef of horrid rocks lay to leeward, ready to receive us. Thus situated, every man was sensible that it was absolutely impossible to combat singly the terrible agitation of the elements, and our feeble expectations of saving our lives were rested solely on the frail hope of the ship riding out the tempest.

“ The masts of De Ruyter had been frequently shewn to us by the glare of the lightning, and we could perceive that she was driving from her moorings ; they disappeared all at once, and we concluded that she had foundered ; we supposed the Serapis had shared the same fate. About eleven o'clock the windlass gave way with a tremendous noise ; the sailors immediately clapped stops upon the cables, and secured them by means of ring-bolts on the decks—these were continually breaking, and were as often replaced.

“ The cable had now held so long, that we began to entertain some faint hopes of riding out the gale, and we dared for a moment to quit the deck for some refreshment ; but no sooner were we sat down, than a loud groan from the crew summoned us on deck ; we dreaded the worst ; the Captain came running forward, and soon put an end to our doubts, by exclaiming, “ All's now over ; Lord God have mercy upon us ! ” The cable had parted, the ship hung about two minutes by the stream and kedje, and then began to drive broadside on, dragging them along with her.

“ Our feelings at this moment are not to be described, nor

can I think on any similar situation to which they can be compared. At this time the seamen, torn by despair, seemed for a moment to forget themselves—the cries of their homes, their wives, and their children, resounded through the ship; but they soon became sensible of their folly, and resumed their usual firmness.

“As soon as the ship parted, which was about 12 o'clock, every man clung to a rope, and determined to stick to it so long as the ship remained entire; the wind had veered somewhat to the west, which prevented her from striking on the reef of rocks which we so much dreaded. It was now one o'clock, we had drifted an hour, without knowing whither. We continued holding fast by the rigging, our bodies beat by the heaviest rain, and lashed by every wave.—A dreadful silence ensued, every one being too intent on his own approaching end, to be able to communicate his feelings to another—nothing could be heard but the horrid howling of the tempest.—A little after one we struck, and instantly went off again; this, together with several lights before us at a distance, convinced us that we were driving towards the harbour of St. John's, and that we had struck on the bar. We saw a large object before us, which we dreaded was Rat Island, (a perpendicular rock in the middle of the harbour, with a fort upon it), we were fast approaching it, and that the garrison might be spectators of our fate, for it was in vain to think of assistance, we fired two alarm guns; but from the tremendous noise of the wind and waves, we doubted if they could be heard.—We soon found that this object was a large ship, on which we were directly driving. We came up with her, and went close under her stern. A faint hope now appeared of being stranded on a sandy beach, for we knew, that although the harbour is chiefly bounded by rocks, yet that there were a few mud and sand banks—and our wishes led us to hope the best. The Captain therefore ordered the carpenter to get the hatchets all ready to cut away

the masts, in order to make a raft for those who chose to venture on it. We could now plainly perceive land not far distant, on which we were driving, and as we knew it to be a huge rock, we run up the fore and mizen stay sails, thinking by that means to divert the course of the ship, but at the same moment the wind chopped round from N.N.W. to west, being no less than six points of the compass, and continued to blow with the same fury; this kept us clear of the projecting land, and drove us beyond it a short distance, when the ship struck; her first strokes were apparently upon a sandy beach, and we could plainly discern two large ships ashore just abreast of us. We now fondly imagined that we should be driven on board these ships, but in this we were disappointed; we drove past, beating with violence at every wave, and in a few seconds found the ship bring up on some horrid rocks, at the foot of a stupendous precipice. Every hope now vanished, and we began already to consider ourselves as beings of another world; the vessel was dashed with extreme violence on the rocks, and we could distinctly hear the cracking of her timbers below: in order to ease the vessel, and if possible, prevent her from parting, we immediately cut away the mizen-mast, and shortly after the fore-mast; the main-mast we allowed to remain, in order to steady the ship, and, if possible, prevent her from canting to windward, which would inevitably have drowned us all. The vessel had struck about two o'clock, and in half an hour afterwards we found that the water was up to the lower deck. Never was day-light so anxiously wished for as by the unfortunate crew of this ship. After having held so long by the shrouds, we were forced to cling three hours longer before the dawn appeared, during which time we were under continual dread of the ship's parting, and launching us into eternity; the sea was making a complete breach over her, laying on her beam ends; and, stiff and benumbed as we were, it was with the utmost difficulty we could pre-

serve our hold against the force of the waves, every one of which struck and nearly drowned us. The break of day discovered to us all the horrors of our situation: the vessel was lying upon large rocks, at the foot of a craggy, overhanging precipice, twice as high as the ship's main mast; the mizen-mast, which, although cut away, still hung in a diagonal direction, supported by some ropes, reached within about four fathoms of the rock; the land forming a sort of bay around us, also approached us a-head, and the extremity of the jib-boom was not far from it; we could plainly discern many ships on shore in various parts of the harbour, and the wind and rain beat upon us with unabated violence; the ship lay a miserable wreck; one wave had carried away her stern boat, unshipped her rudder, and washed overboard her quarter-boards, binnacle, and round-house; her fore and mizen-masts lay alongside, supported by small ropes, and the ship had bilged her larboard side. Our first thoughts, after the dawn appeared, were naturally directed to the possibility of saving our lives, and we all agreed, that the only hopes of doing so was by means of the mizen-mast; we immediately got the top-mast and top-gallant-masts launched out on it, which reached within a few feet of the rock, but the part of the precipice which it approached was so perpendicular, as to afford us but faint hopes of relief, unless it might be procured by means of some bushes which grew on the brow of the rock: a sailor soon made trial of it; but to our great mortification we saw him heave a rope, on the end of which was formed a noose, and which catching hold of some of the largest bushes, brought them away in an instant, and discovered to us that the roots of the shrubs were fastened to nothing but a much decayed weather-beaten rock, incapable of affording them support sufficient to withstand the smallest weight. Another seaman, who seemed from despair to have imbibed an extraordinary degree of courage, followed the first man out on the mast, with the intention of throwing himself from the end upon the mercy of the

rock: he had proceeded to the extremity of the top-gallant-mast, and was on the point of leaping among the bushes, when the pole of the mast, unable to sustain his weight, gave way, and precipitated him into the bosom of the waves: as the fall was at least forty feet in height, it was some time before he made his appearance above the surface of the water, and when he did, every one expected to see him dashed to pieces among the rocks, but he had fortunately carried down with him the piece of the broken mast, to which were fastened some small ropes, and by clinging fast to them, he preserved his head above water, at the intervals of the waves receding, until a tackle was fixed to hoist him up. All our hopes of being saved by means of the mizen mast were now blasted; and yet some decisive measure seemed absolutely necessary; for, as the storm did not abate in the smallest degree, we began still more to dread that the ship would part, as she had already bilged on the larboard side; the whole crew had besides been so fatigued, dispirited, and benumbed, that they were hardly able to hold out any longer. It was in vain to expect outward assistance, as we were not seen from the town, and the ships which were in sight of us had it not in their power to afford us the least aid. Some negroes did make their appearance on the top of the rock, and we requested them to descend a little way in order to receive a rope, but whether from fear or mere stupidity, I do not know, but in spite of all our entreaties, promises, and threats, these creatures stood gaping in the most idiotical manner, sometimes at us, and sometimes at themselves, without making the least motion to approach us. Whilst we were meditating in sullen silence on our situation, Mr. Doncaster, the chief mate, unknown to any one, went out on the bowsprit, and having reached the end of the jib-boom, was then seen to throw himself headlong into the water; he had hardly fallen, when a tremendous wave threw him upon the rock, and left him dry; there he remained a few moments without motion, until a second wave washed him still further up, when cling-

ing to some roughness in the cliff, he effectually preserved his hold ; he remained there a few minutes to recruit himself, and then began to scramble up the rock. Mr. Doncaster's preservation was most miraculous ; all the ship's company were unanimous in declaring that it was next to an impossibility ; it seemed indeed a singular interposition of Providence in our behalf. In about half an hour he, with infinite difficulty, reached the summit of the cliff : most anxiously had we been watching every step which he took, and praying for his safety, conscious that our preservation depended solely upon it. He immediately came round to that part of the precipice which was over against our quarter, and descending a little way, he received a rope thrown from the maintop ; this he fastened to some trees on the top of the cliff, and we passed the other end of it to the head of the mizen top-mast ; this being done, a few of the most expert seamen warped themselves up on it, carrying with them the end of another rope, upon which a tackle was bent, and which they fastened also to the trees ; the other end of the tackle was made fast to the mizen mast, and the fold of it passed to the crew upon deck ; by means of this rope, which we fastened round our waists, and the first rope, by which we supported ourselves, warping along it with our hands, we were all in the space of three hours safely hoisted to the top of the cliff, except a few of the most active seamen, who were left to the last, and obliged to warp themselves up as the first had done. The whole ship's company, consisting of Captain Lawrence, Mr. Lawrence, the master, Mr. Doncaster, the chief mate, Mr. Lowrie, the surgeon, with twenty-four seamen and petty officers, and three passengers, Mr. Verchild, Mr. Wood, and Lieutenant Webber, of the Artillery, having now assembled on the rock, we took leave of our vessel, and bent our way towards the town ; nor did our difficulties end here, the whole plain before us, in consequence of the rain which had fallen, and still was pouring down in great abundance, presented the appearance of a large lake, through which we



found our way with much difficulty.—In those places where roads or furrows had been made we frequently plunged up to the neck, and were in great danger of being carried down by the stream. After wading about three miles through fields of canes, whose tops could hardly be seen above the water, we reached the town of St. John's where we were so *courteously* received by Mr. Cann (who keeps the principal tavern there), that I believe we should have died for want of food and necessities, had it not been for the kind offices of a mulatto tailor, to whom we sent for clothes, and who carried us to a house where we were furnished with beds and provisions.

"In a few hours afterwards, the wind chopped round to the South, from which quarter it blew with the same violence the whole of the 4th and part of the 5th. The hurricane lasted forty-eight hours, during which time it made a complete sweep of half the compass, beginning at N. and ending at S. This favourable change saved the ship from breaking up, and the morning of the 5th, we found her lying nearly dry, among the rocks, with five large holes in her larboard side; and we were enabled to save some of our linen that was floating in the hold."

The extraordinary preservation of this crew, as given above in the narrator's own language, corroborates the observations of the Royal Psalmist—"They that go down to the sea in ships—that do business in the great waters—these see the works of the Lord and his wonders in the deep. For he commandeth and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof: they mount up to the heaven; they go down again to the depths; their soul is melted because of trouble. They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wit's end. Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses. Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men."—Psalm 107.



II





*A Correct likeness of JOHN WELLS, the supposed murderer of the Mary & Williamson's Families,*

December the 8<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>  
1311.

win, the coroner, and a jury, sat on the bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Marr, at the Jolly Sailor public-house.

The first witness was Mr. Salter, a surgeon, in Ratcliff-highway, who gave a technical description of the various wounds, and stated that the infant, Timothy Marr, had received a large incision, three inches in depth, upon the left side of its throat, together with several marks of violence on the left side of its face. The mother of the little innocent, Cecilia Marr, had the left side of the *cranium* fractured in a most dreadful manner, and the *temporal* bone totally destroyed, with a wound in the left jaw, about two inches in length, and extending into the left ear, at the back of which there was also a severe wound. Mr. Timothy Marr had his nose broken in, the *occipital* bone also fractured, and a violent blow on the left eye. James Gohen, the apprentice boy, had a severe contusion on the forehead and nose, with the *occipital* bone dreadfully shattered, and the brains protruding, with other marks of violence on his body.

Margaret Jewell, the servant of Mr. Marr, gave her testimony in a state of agonized despair. It was with the greatest difficulty the court could collect a coherent statement of what she knew of the transaction. Her evidence, as far as it was collected, was as follows: "I have lived servant with Mr. Marr for some time past. On Saturday night last, my master gave me a 1*l.* note. It then wanted a few minutes of 12. My master was then busy behind the counter. On leaving the house I went to Mr. Taylor's, to procure some oysters for my master's supper; but the shop being shut up, I returned past my master's window, and saw him still behind the counter; I then went to John's-hill, to pay the baker, but his shop was shut up also. I then went to another place to get some oysters, but found all the shops shut up; upon which I returned again to the door of my master's house. I found it close shut up, but a light was seen. I think I was out about 20 minutes. I rang at the bell, but

no one answered. I rang repeatedly. Whilst I was at the door the watchman went by on the other side of the way, with a person in charge. I certainly heard some one come up stairs whilst I stood at the door, which I thought was my master, to let me in. I am certain I heard the child cry very low. I rang again, and knocked at the door with my foot repeatedly. A man came up to the door, whilst I was standing there, and insulted me very much. I thought I would wait till the watchman came. He called the hour one, and came to the door. He told me to move on, not knowing me; upon which I told him I was locked out, and that I belonged to the house, and thought it very strange. He then observed, that he (Mr. Marr) had not locked the door. The watchman rang the bell, and called Mr. Marr through the key-hole. Mr. Murray, the next door neighbour, came out and asked what was the matter. The watchman told him I was locked out. I still stood at the door till Mr. Murray came again, when he said there was a strong light backward. Mr. Murray then went backwards, whilst another watchman, who had joined the first, made an alarm. Then Mr. Murray got into the house backwards, and opened the street-door, where I was still standing, with the watchman, and I saw—" [Here the poor girl, struck with the remembrance of her mistress's mangled and bleeding body, which presented itself on the opening of the door, was so overpowered, that she fainted on the spot, and was carried out in a state of insensibility.]

Mr. John Murray, pawnbroker, No. 30, Ratcliff-highway, stated, that about 10 minutes after 12, on Sunday morning last, he was sitting at supper with his family, and heard a noise in Mr. Marr's house, which appeared to be on the shop floor, and resembled the falling of a shutter or a chair; and the sound of a voice, as if proceeding from a person under the impulse of fear, or correction; like a boy's or woman's. This all occurred in about the space of a mi-

nute. A little before one he heard a violent ringing at Mr. Marr's bell, which continued at intervals, till about a quarter past one. He then went out to ascertain the cause of the ringing. Witness then described his clambering over a wall at the rear of Mr. Marr's house, and entering it, where he found the bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Marr, the infant, and James Gohen, as already described, weltering in their blood, and lifeless, though still warm. He stated that Mr. and Mrs. Marr came into the house No. 29, Ratcliff-highway, about the latter end of April last. Mr. Marr seemed to be about 24 years old, and Mrs. Marr about the same age. The child was about 14 weeks old.

G. Olney, a watchman, stated, that on Sunday morning, about half-past one o'clock, he was standing at Mr. Marr's door, with the servant girl, when Mr. Murray opened the door from the inside, and he went in directly. Mr. Murray said, "For God's sake come in, and see what dreadful murder is here." Witness first saw Mrs. Marr lying on her face, with all her clothes covered with blood, and her feet towards her door, which at first prevented its being opened. She was dead, but not cold. Her brains seemed to be hanging out on one side of her head, and he saw a great deal of blood about. Witness then described the situation of the other bodies, which has been already sufficiently stated.

This was all the evidence adduced before the Jury. The ship-carpenter's maul, which the desperate villains had left behind them, as before observed, was produced, covered with blood, and human hair still adhering to it; which left no doubt that this was the instrument with which the horrid facts were perpetrated. The Jury, without hesitation, returned a verdict of *Wilful Murder*, against some person or persons unknown.

While these investigations were proceeding, the premises were examined by the Sheriffs of London, and by all the Magistrates; rewards were offered, and associations entered

into, and nightly watch kept up against the common enemy, and several persons taken up and examined, but no clue found, to detect the murderers ; and while every exertion was making, another murder was committed on the same spot, nearly equal in extent and atrocity to the last, of the family of Mr. and Mrs. Williamson, and their woman servant, on Thursday December 19, 1811, at the sign of the King's Arms, No. 81, New Gravel-lane, which increased the horror of the inhabitants; the particulars of which will appear, by the relation of the witnesses summoned on the Coroner's Inquest.

#### CORONER'S INQUEST ON THE DEAD BODIES.

On Saturday afternoon, at two o'clock, an Inquest was held at the Black Horse, New Gravel-lane, on the bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Williamson, and their servant, Bridget Harrington, before Mr. Unwin, coroner for the district.

John Turner sworn.—I am a sawyer by trade, in the employ of Messrs. Scarlett and Cook ; I have lodged in the house of Mr. Williamson, in New Gravel-lane, for about eight months ; I lodged in the front garret, which is two floors from the ground floor ; I board at my brother's, who lives near Mr. Williamson's ; I went from my brother's to Mr. Williamson's on Thursday evening last, about twenty minutes before seven o'clock, as near as I can say ; when I went in Mrs. Williamson was standing at the front door, and followed me ; Mr. Williamson was sitting in the middle room in his great chair ; the servant was in the back room. I saw no other persons in the house but those three ; Mr. Williamson told me to sit down ; I stood by the fire ; a little man came in, whose name I understand to be Samuel Phillips—he came in, according to his usual custom, for a pint of beer, and told Mr. Williamson that there was a stout man, with a very large coat on, passing in at the inner glass door in the passage ; Mr. Williamson catching up the candlestick, said, " I'll see what he wants." He went out with

the candle in his hand, and returned, saying, "he could not see him, but if he did see him, he would send him where he ought, or would not like to go." Phillips went out with his beer, and Mr. Anderson came in directly afterwards—he did not stay above two or three minutes. Shortly afterwards the servant raked out the fire, and I went to bed, at which time Mrs. Williamson followed me up stairs to her own room, with a watch and silver punch ladle. This was the last time I saw either of them living. I heard Mrs. Williamson lock the bed-room door and go down stairs again. There is no fastening to my room door. I went to bed, and had not been there above five minutes before I heard the front door banged to very hard. Immediately afterwards I heard the servant exclaim, "We are all murdered," or "shall be murdered," two or three times, I cannot exactly say which of the expressions she made use of; I had not been asleep. I heard the sound of two or three blows, but with what weapon I cannot say. Shortly after I heard Mr. Williamson cry out, "I am a dead man!" I was in bed still. About two minutes afterwards I got out of bed, and listened at the door, but could hear nothing; I went down to the first floor, and from below heard the sound of three heavy sighs; I heard some person walk across the middle room of the ground floor very lightly; I was then half way down the last pair of stairs, and naked; I went to the bottom of the stairs, and the door stood a little on the jar. I passed through the opening, and by the light of the candle that was burning in the room, I saw a man, apparently near six feet high, in a large rough Flushing coat, of a dark colour, which reached down to his heels; he was standing with his back towards me, apparently leaning over some person, as if in the act of rifling the pockets, as I heard some silver rattle, and saw him rise and open his coat with his left hand, and put his right hand to his breast, as if to put something in his pocket; I did not see his face, and I only saw that



one person. I was fearful, and went up stairs as quick, but as softly as I could; I thought first of getting under the bed, but I was fearful I should be found; I then took the two sheets, tied them together, fastened them to the bed post, opened the window, and lowered myself down by the sheets. The watchman sprang his rattle; Mr. Fox came up, and said, "break the door open." Mr. Fox went over the way, and came back again with a hanger. I have frequently seen Mr. Williamson's watch; it is a small thick silver watch, with a glass; it had a gold coloured chain, and a large seal with a stone in the bottom. I saw Mr. Williamson playing with the chain on Thursday night, when I was standing at the fire. I never saw an iron crow in the house to my knowledge.

George Fox sworn—I reside in New Gravel-lane, opposite the house of the deceased. On Thursday night, as the clock was going 11, I came to the top of New Gravel-lane, in my way home; I saw two watchmen standing at Mr. Williamson's door; when I came up to them, I asked what was the matter? Mr. Lee, the landlord of the Black Horse, was along with the watchmen. I was told the house was being robbed, if not the people being murdered in it. Several other persons coming up soon after, I begged of them to knock hard, and if there was no answer, I proposed to break open the door, and I would be answerable for the consequences. They did knock, and received no answer. While they were breaking open the door, I ran across to my own house for a hanger, which the servant immediately gave, without my going in doors; the door and the front cellar window were immediately broke open; three or four persons went down the cellar window, while myself and three or four went in at the door. We looked in at the fore-room, which was in darkness; we went into the middle-room, occupied as a kitchen, where there was a light burning on a table; there I saw Mrs. Williamson lying upon her face,

along the hearth, with her head towards the door, with her throat cut, and the blood flowing from the wound; apparently dead; she had all her clothes on; some keys and a box were lying by the side of her; and it appeared to me that her pockets had been rifled; the servant, Bridget Harrington, lying between Mrs. Williamson and the fire-place in the same direction, with her throat cut, and the blood flowing from it; the fire was out, and materials laid ready to light in the morning; she was also completely dressed, and appeared to have received a violent blow on the head. I immediately called out, "Where is the old man Williamson?" I was answered from those in the cellar, "Here he is, with his throat cut." I went part of the way down, and saw him lying upon his back in the cellar; I immediately, with others, proceeded to search the house; I went into the back room, next to that in which I had found the bodies of Mrs. Williamson and the servant, and found that the inside shutter of one of the back windows had been taken down, and the sash thrown up; in about half an hour afterwards I examined the window more closely, and saw the window shutter, which had been taken down, marked with blood, apparently with the print of a hand, and there was also blood upon the inside iron bar. When I first saw the window open, I begged somebody would go up stairs and search the house, while I remained at the window. I stopped at that window to prevent any retreat; Mr. Mallet, the chief clerk of the Shadwell Police, and two police officers, went with me to search for the offenders, but without effect, at different houses, in consequence of information that two suspicious persons had gone along Shadwell High-street. Soon after I got into the house, I saw John Turner, who had, I was informed, made his escape out of the window, and gave him in charge to the watchman.

William Salter sworn.—I am a surgeon, and live in Ratcliff-highway; I have minutely inspected the bodies of the

several parties deceased, by the direction of the coroner, and found the following marks of violence upon their bodies: namely, J. Williamson has a wound extending from the left ear, to within two inches of the right, penetrating through the trachea or wind-pipe, and down to the vertebrae of the neck; and the tibia, or large bone of the right leg, fractured a little above the ankle, apparently from a fall, as if down stairs, because had it been done by any other means, I think there must have been a laceration of the integuments; no marks of violence upon any other parts.—Catharine Williamson, the right temporal and parietal dreadfully fractured, apparently from a large poker, or some such instrument, comprehending nearly the whole of the right side of the head; the throat cut from ear to ear, through the wind-pipe, &c.; no marks of violence upon any other part.—Ann Bridget Harrington, the woman-servant, the right parietal bone laid open, about four inches in length, and two in width, with the bones exposed; and the throat cut about four inches in length, through the wind-pipe; no other marks of violence appear. I conceive their throats to have been cut with a razor, as none but such sharp instrument could have cut so deep, without tearing the parts, which is not the case in this instance, their throats being cut by one incision. On each of their bodies there is sufficient causes of death appearing.

Samuel Mullenor, a cooper, who lived opposite the house of the deceased, said, that when he came out from viewing the dead bodies, he was met by two girls of the town, who informed him, two men ran past them—one in a white rough coat, and the other a short man.

The Jury, after a patient consideration of the whole of the evidence, from two o'clock, until seven on Saturday evening, returned a verdict of—*Wilful murder against some person or persons unknown.*

Mr. and Mrs. Williamson had kept the sign of the King's

Arms fifteen years, and were characters highly respectable; and they invariably closed up their house every night at 11 o'clock. About ten minutes before 11, on the night of the murder, Mr. Anderson, a particular friend of Mr. Williamson, called for a pot of beer; Mrs. Williamson drew it, and said to Mr. Anderson, she would send it, and while she was drawing the beer, Mr. Williamson, who was sitting by the fire, said to Mr. Anderson, "You are an officer; there has been a fellow listening at my door, with a brown coat on; if you should see him, take him into custody, or send for me,"—which he promised to do; the beer was taken by the servant, and Mr. Anderson only living next door but one, she returned before he had left the house. In less than twenty minutes after this transaction, he heard a noise, and as soon as he had left his house, to discover the meaning of it, he saw the lodger lowering himself down into the street, by the sheets, which he had tied together, and which were fastened to the post of the bedstead. The watchman caught the lodger in his arms. Mr. Anderson with his sword, a butcher with an axe, and a man with a poker, broke open the flap of the cellar window. They all entered, and found Mr. Williamson lying on his back, with his legs up the stairs, and his head downwards; by his side was an iron crow, about three feet long, much stained with blood. He had received a wound on his head, his throat was cut, and his right leg much bruised, and his hand severely cut.—From these marks of violence, it was supposed Mr. Williamson made great resistance, being a very powerful man. He was about 56 years of age. His wife was about 60, and their servant about 50.

Mrs. Williamson's grand-daughter, named Kitty Stillwell, about fourteen years of age, was gone to bed, and asleep, in the two pair of stairs, during the time, where she was found by Mr. George Cleugh, the beadle, who had helped to break into the house with an iron crow.

Government offered a reward of 500*l.* for the discovery of the perpetrators, which, with the 200 guineas offered by the parishes of Shadwell and Ratcliffe, made a total of 710*l.* besides 20 guineas to any person who could prove the selling of the iron crow-bar, found on the premises, in addition to the many rewards, offered on the discovery of the murder of Mr. Marr's family, to a great amount. The houses of more than forty labourers, in the neighbourhood of Epping Forest, were examined by the police, on the Friday, and expresses sent to the sea-ports to stop all suspicious persons. There was every reason to think that the murderers of the Marr family were concerned in the acts of blood in Gravel-lane, and that, from the repetition of the outrage, as well as other concurring circumstances, they lived on the spot, at least not far distant, and were well acquainted with its localities; and this in the sequel, proved to be correct.

*Whitehall, December 21, 1811.*

Whereas it has been humbly represented to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, that between the hours of eleven and twelve o'clock on the night of Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> instant, as the watchman was going his rounds in New Gravel-lane, Shadwell, in the county of Middlesex, he observed a young man, who was a lodger at the public house, called the King's Arms, and kept by Mr. John Williamson, lowering himself down by two sheets, from a two pair of stairs window, who told him that the family were murdered, whereupon the door was immediately broken open, and the bodies of Mrs. Catharine Williamson, and her maid servant Bridget Harrington, were found murdered in the tap-room, and the said Mr. John Williamson was found in the cellar, in the same state; His Royal Highness, for the better apprehending and bringing to justice the persons concerned in the atrocious murders, is hereby pleased, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, to promise His Majesty's

most gracious pardon to any one of them, (except the person or persons who actually perpetrated the said murders), who shall discover his or their accomplice or accomplices therein, so that he, she, or they may be apprehended and convicted thereof. And as a further encouragement, a reward of FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS is hereby offered to any person making such discovery, as aforesaid, (excepting, as before excepted), to be paid on the conviction of any one or more of the offenders, by the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury.

R. RYDER.

In consequence of this notice of government, a number of suspected persons were taken up, and kept in close confinement: in the mean time, every instrument of death that was found near the unfortunate sufferers, was strongly advertised, but to no purpose, till the following advertisement appeared.

*Thames Police-Office, Wapping.*

Whereas it is most particularly necessary, that any person who may possess any knowledge of the maul with which the late barbarous murder in Ratcliff-highway appears to have been committed, should come forward and make the same known: the Magistrates have caused the same to be again described, and do most solemnly and urgently require, that every person who may be enabled to give the slightest information respecting it, do immediately acquaint the Magistrates therewith.—The maul may be seen by any such person, on application at this Office: the handle of the maul is 23 inches long; the head, from the face to the extremity of the pin-end, is eight inches and a half; it has a flaw in the face, and the pin-end has been broken off in flakes; it is marked faintly with the letters J. P. in dots on the

crown, near the face, and appears to have been so marked with a coppering punch.

By order of the Magistrates,

December 20th, 1811. E. W. SYMONS, Chief Clerk.

This advertisement having appeared in the papers, Mr. Vermilloe, then confined in Newgate, for a small debt, immediately recollected the maul, and gave private information to the magistrates, which led to the apprehension of John Williams, on Monday the 23rd, on suspicion of being concerned in the late murders. He underwent a long interrogation at Shadwell Police Office, in consequence of which, it led to such a train of circumstantial evidence against him, that must completely satisfy every mind, that if he was not the sole perpetrator, he was the principal actor.

The following train of important circumstances, through the activity and intelligence of the police, was very likely to dispel the mystery that had so long concealed the perpetrators of the above crimes. More than twenty persons had been taken into custody, on suspicion of being concerned, but most of them having satisfactorily demonstrated their innocence, had been discharged. The man, however, against whom a great body of substantial evidence had been collected, implicating him in the murder of both the Marr and Williamson families, was apprehended on Monday: John Williams, a desperate character, and of irregular habits. His first examination took place at the Shadwell Police Office, on Monday the 23rd, when the circumstances of suspicion alleged against him were, that he had been frequently seen at the house of Williamson the publican, and that he had been more particularly seen there, about seven o'clock on Thursday evening last; that on the same evening he did not go home to his lodgings, at the Pear-tree, until about 12, when he desired a fellow-lodger, a foreign sailor, to put

out his candle. Previous to this melancholy transaction, he had little or no money, having borrowed 6d. the preceding evening of his landlady; and that when he was taken into custody, he had a good deal of silver. On his person was found a duplicate for two pair of shoes, pledged for 8s., and 1l. 14s. in silver, with a 1l. note. These suspicious circumstances having been proved against him, the magistrates desired him to give an account of himself. He avowed that he had been at Mr. Williamson's on Thursday evening, and at various other times. He had known Mr. and Mrs. Williamson a considerable time, and was very intimate there. On Thursday evening, when he was talking to Mrs. Williamson, she was very cheerful, and patted him on the cheek, when she brought him some liquor. He was considered rather in the light of a friend, than a mere customer of the house. When he left their house he went to a surgeon's in Shadwell, for the purpose of getting advice for the cure of his leg, which had been a considerable number of years disabled, in consequence of an old wound. From thence he went to a female operator in the same neighbourhood, in hopes of his getting his cure completed at a less expense than a surgeon's charge. He then went farther west, and met some female acquaintances, and after visiting several public-houses, he returned to his lodgings, and went to bed. The circumstance of his desiring his fellow-lodger to put out his candle, arose in consequence of his finding the man, who was a German, lying in bed with a candle in one hand, a book in the other, and a pipe in his mouth. Seeing him in that situation, and apprehending that the house might be set on fire by his carelessness, he told him to put out his lights, and not expose the house to the danger of being burnt down to the ground. He accounted for the possession of the money found upon him, as the produce of some wearing-apparel he left as pledges at a pawnbroker's. He never made any mystery of his having been at Mr. William-



son's on Thursday evening; on the contrary, he told his landlady, and several other people, that he had been with poor Mrs. Williamson and her husband a very short time before they were murdered, and remarked how cheerful Mrs. Williamson was.

Under all the circumstances of the case, the prisoner was, however, remanded for further examination.

After the examination was closed, and Williams was detained in custody, the following confirmation of the suspicions entertained of him, was made known to the magistrates. The maul, with which there is no doubt Mr. Marr and his unfortunate family were killed, had been missing from Mr. Vermilloe's house, where the prisoner lodged, and where it had been left for safe-keeping, along with several other tools, by a foreign seaman, named John Peterson, who was by trade a ship's carpenter. The maul was marked with the initials J. P. and the other tools found in Mr. Vermilloe's house, bore precisely similar characters. Mr. Vermilloe, who was confined in Newgate for debt, was unable to attend for the purpose of confirming these circumstances; but Mr. Capper, the magistrate, went with the maul to Newgate, for the purpose of interrogating him upon the subject. Mr. Vermilloe immediately recognised it as the instrument which had been left in his custody by Peterson, and said, that, although he would not positively swear that it was the same, yet the confidence he certainly entertained of its identity was very much confirmed by the circumstance of the sharp point of the maul in question being broken; and he remembered having broken the point of Peterson's maul one day when he was breaking up some fire-wood.

On Tuesday evening Williams was again brought before the magistrates, for farther examination.

John Turner, the lodger, described the situation in which he first descried the villain rifling the pockets of Mrs. Williamson, and further stated, that while he was going down.

stairs, he was sure he heard a man slowly walking in the sitting-room, and that his shoes cracked : he was confident the man could not have nails in his shoes. The witness could not swear to the prisoner being the man he saw in that situation, though he had frequently seen him in Williamson's house.

Mrs. Rice, a laundress, residing in Union-street, Shadwell, stated, that she was sister-in-law to Mrs. Vermilloe, the prisoner's landlady. She had washed for the prisoner about three years, and knew his stock of linen perfectly well. She had not washed for him the last fortnight.

The magistrate here rigidly examined this witness.—Q. Have you not seen blood on his shirts ? Yes, I have, on one of them.—Have you seen any blood on his shirts since last Saturday week ? Yes I have : one of his shirts was bloody about the collar, like the mark of two fingers.—Was there no other part stained ? I took no particular notice, the shirt was torn in the breast.—Did you not take notice of the shirt being torn ? Yes, but judged the prisoner had been quarrelling, he might have had the shirt torn.—When was it you had this shirt without being torn ? Last Thursday week.—Will you swear there were no other marks of blood on the shirt ? There was a little blood on the arms, and several spots on other parts of the body ; but taking no particular notice at the time, I washed it, and kept the shirt, in order to mend it.—Have you washed out all the stains ? I think I must, for I boiled it well in hot water.—What linen have you generally washed for the prisoner ? Four linen shirts and some stockings ; but never any white handkerchiefs ; the prisoner used to wear black handkerchiefs.—[The prisoner wore a white handkerchief on his examination.]

Mrs. Vermilloe, the landlady of the Pear-tree, where the prisoner lodged, stated, that she had known him some years. Her husband was a prisoner for debt in Newgate. A young sailor, named John Peterson, a Swede, who had gone

abroad, had left a chest of tools with her husband, to keep safe for him, until his return from sea. There were two or three mauls in that chest three weeks ago, but within that time they had disappeared. The box which contained them was always unlocked, and any body in the house might have access to it. It was in the same room where the prisoner's sea-bed was deposited. Most of the mauls and others tools belonging to Peterson, were marked with initials J. P.; one of them her husband had sometimes used. She herself could not speak positively as to any of the tools, nor was she sure she could recognise them if produced.

The blood-stained instrument with which the unfortunate Mr. Marr and family were dispatched, was then produced, at sight of which the witness was agitated, and shrunk back with horror and consternation. It was with great difficulty she could be got to look at it steadily. She was desired to say whether she had not seen that instrument in her husband's house, and whether it was not the same with which her husband sometimes broke up wood? She answered, that she might have seen it, but she could not be positive. The question was put to her in various ways, but her answer was, it was like the maul that was missing, but she could not swear to it.

Mrs. Rice interposed, and said, that her little boys could speak positively as to the identity of the maul, as she had frequently heard them describe a broken pointed maul, with which they used to play in the square, near their aunt's house.

The boys were then sent for. During the absence of the messenger, the prisoner begged to account for the manner in which the shirt, given to the laundress on Friday night fortnight, became torn and stained with blood. He said, he had been dancing with his coat and waistcoat off, at the house where he lodged, about half past eleven o'clock at night; and his sport being stopped by the watchman, he

had retired thus undressed, to the Royal Oak, to treat his musician. In the Royal Oak he met with a number of Irish coal-heavers playing cards, and they insisted upon his playing with them. He consented; after much entreaty, and lost a shilling's worth of liquor. He was then for retiring peremptorily, when a scuffle ensued between him and one of the party, who seized him by the shirt collar, which he tore, and then struck him a blow on the mouth, which cut his lip, and from that wound issued the blood which stained his shirt.

The magistrates told him to confine himself to the shirt found bloody on Thursday week; to which caution he paid no apparent attention.

Michael Cuthperson and John Harrison, two Prussian sailors, who were fellow-lodgers of the prisoner's, proved, that he did not come home till near one o'clock, on the night of the murder of Mr. Marr and family. The former of these witnesses, upon seeing the maul, said it was very much like one he had seen Mrs. Vermiloe's nephews frequently play with in the yard.

William Rice, a little boy, about eleven years old, the nephew of Mrs. Vermiloe, was then asked if he had ever played with a large hammer; he answered, he had, that his brother and he used to play at carpenters with it, and that he should know it again, for it was broke in the point.

Upon being shewn the actual maul in question, he recognised it, and said he was quite sure it was the same he had frequently played with. He had not, however, seen it for about a month before, but he was positive it was the same: and he dared to say his brother would say the same also.

The prisoner was remanded for farther examination.

On Wednesday morning the magistrates went again to Newgate, and had another interview with Mr. Vermiloe, the landlord of the Pear-tree, when he identified the ripping chisel, found at Mr. Marr's house, as being one of Peterson's

tools. Mrs. Vermilloe, who was present at this interview, gave in an unembarrassed manner, decisive information as to the identity of the blood-stained maul.

John Cuthperson, a fellow-lodger of Williams, stated to the magistrates, that on the morning after the murder of Mr. Williamson, when he got up, he saw a pair of his own stockings lying behind his chest, very much dirtied with fresh mud. He took them down stairs into the tap-room, where he found Williams. He asked him who had dirtied his stockings in that manner? Williams said, "Why! are they yours?"—"Yes, they are mine," the witness replied. Some little dispute then ensued, as to their right ownership, when Williams took them into the back yard, and after washing the dirt off, returned them to the witness. He is quite sure Williams had on at the time a pair of light shoes, which creaked a good deal when he walked.


On Thursday John Fred. Richterson, a Dane, was brought before the magistrates. The circumstance of suspicion alleged against him, was in consequence of a pair of blue trousers having been found under his bed, in a damp state, with the appearance of mud having been imperfectly washed away from the knees downwards. The prisoner said he knew of no mud being upon them, acknowledged having brushed, but denied having washed them. He stated that he lodged in the same house with Williams for about twelve weeks and three or four days, but knew little of him, except as a fellow-lodger. On the night of the murder of Mr. Marr and family, a few minutes before Williams came home, there was a knock at the door, and he went down to open it, when he found the key had been taken from the inside of the lock, and he called to the mother of Mrs. Vermilloe, the landlady, to come down and open the door. Hearing her coming down stairs, he went up to his own room. A few minutes afterwards Williams came in. It was then almost half past one o'clock. About three or four days before

Williams was taken up, he observed that the large *sandy-coloured whiskers* which had before formed a striking feature of Williams's appearance, had been cut off. About eleven o'clock on the day after the murder of Mr. Marr and family, the examinant went from curiosity to examine the premises, which he entered, and saw the dead bodies. From thence he returned to the Pear-tree, where he found Williams in the back yard, washing out his stockings, but he did not tell Williams where he had been. On being asked by the magistrates, why he did not tell Williams, the examinant answered, "he did not know—he could not tell." He was then questioned respecting his knowledge of the maul, and also the ripping-chisel, which is about an inch in diameter, and between two and three feet in length, flattened at the end, but not with a cutting edge. The maul, he said, resembled one he had seen about the Pear-tree public-house, but he could not identify it; had heard the captain of a vessel, with whom Williams sailed, say, that if ever he went on shore again he would certainly be hanged. The above particulars were obtained from the witness with difficulty. Cornelius Hart and Jeremiah Fitzpatrick, suspected of being intimately acquainted with Williams, were examined. It was proved that they had occasionally drunk with him, and that on Thursday se'night the former had attempted to obtain admittance at the Pear-tree, having been locked out of his home.

Mrs. Hoare, who kept a chandler's shop in Sir William Warren's-square, next door but one to Pear-tree court, and adjoining to the house kept by Mrs. Vermilloe, where Williams lodged, acquainted the magistrates, that on the Saturday before Marr's murder, about half past one o'clock in the morning, she was getting up linen, when she heard a noise, as if a man was attempting to break into the house. She was frightened, and asked, "who was there?" A voice answered, which she knew to be Williams's, "I am a rob-

ber!" she answered, "whether you are a robber or not, I will let you in, and am glad to see you." Williams entered, seating himself down till the watchman was calling the hour of past two o'clock; Williams got up from his chair, asked her if she would have a glass? She assented, but as he would not go for it, she went to the Pear-tree public-house, and could gain no admittance. She returned, when Williams enquired how many rooms there were in her house, and the situation of her back premises? She replied, there were three rooms, and that her back-yard communicated with Mrs. Vermilloe's house. The watchman came into Mrs. Hoare's house, which Williams resisted for some time. The watchman told Mrs. Hoare, that he had picked up a chisel by the side of her window. Williams run out, unobserved, at this information; soon afterwards he returned; the watchman was going when Williams stopped him, and desired him to go to the Pear-tree and get some liquor. While the watchman was gone for the liquor, Williams took up the chisel, and said "D—n my eyes, where did you get this chisel?" The watchman replied, "I found it at Mrs. Hoare's door." Williams then said, "whoever owned this chisel never intended Mrs. Hoare any good." Mrs. Hoare did not part with it, and retained the instrument till Monday last. Hearing that Williams was examined, she went to Mrs. Vermilloe's, and shewed her the chisel.—Mrs. Vermilloe looked at it, and compared it with the tools in Peterson's chest, when it was found to bear the same marks, and declared it was taken out of her house. Mrs. Hoare instantly delivered the chisel to the magistrates of Shadwell-street office, as being a further trace to the villany. Mrs. Hoare said she knew Williams for eleven weeks; he frequently nursed her child, and used to joke with her daughter, and once asked her whether she would be frightened if he came in the dead of the night to her bed-side. The daughter replied, "No, if it was you, Mr. Williams, I should not."

Both the mother and daughter thought Williams an agreeable young man, and never thought he could be the man who would attempt to rob or murder.



On Friday an immense concourse of persons assembled at Shadwell police-office for the purpose of witnessing the examination of Williams, against whom suspicion had been so strongly confirmed by a variety of circumstantial testimony. All the persons who could give any information respecting the late murders, as well as respecting Williams's conduct subsequent thereto, were summoned; the maul and ripping-chisel were placed on the table, and every arrangement for a full and minute examination of the dreadful occurrences was made. While all were waiting in anxious expectation for the arrival of the prisoner, the officers who had been dispatched to Cold Bath-fields prison to conduct him to the office, returned with the intelligence, that they found him hanging to a cross-bar six feet from the ground, and extending along the ceiling, placed for the accommodation of prisoners to throw their linen, clothes, &c. across. He was suspended to the bar by his white neckerchief, tied securely about his neck: his body was quite cold, and he had apparently struggled hard. He had discovered no material depression in his spirits the preceding night, although he had fallen away since his confinement; thus, by his own hand, this monster, whose connection in the before-mentioned barbarities, there is every reason to believe, would have been established in the most incontrovertible manner, accelerated his fate.

The magistrates then proceeded to put questions to several of the witnesses touching Williams's conduct.

Mrs. Vermiloe was the first that was examined; she denied that she had ever said (when she was told that her husband had accused Williams as a person whom he suspected as being concerned in the murders of the Marr and Williamson families), "Good God, why did he say so?" One of



the officers declared that she had said so ; but she allowed that she might have said, " Did he say so ? " On being told of Williams's death, she exclaimed, " Good God, I hope not ! " On being asked by the magistrate why she hoped not, she said, because she should be sorry that he should do such a thing, if he was innocent. A lodger in her house, of the name of Harrison, she said, went up stairs and called her to look at Williams's stockings, which she afterwards washed, and she saw that they were muddy till about an inch of the white at the top, as if he had been in a ditch full of mud ; she also remarked a spot of blood, as if the mark of a bloody finger, near the top of one of the stockings. The magistrates asked if she had suspicion of any of his associates, as it was clear he could not have perpetrated all those murders by himself ; but she positively denied having suspicion of any one but Williams. He was not, she said, in the habit of keeping company with Irishmen, as the people of that country are in general. She always understood from Williams that he was an Irishman ; and when she called him Williams to one of his friends, he said " his name is not Williams ; it is John Murphy, and he was born at Bandon, in Ireland, near where I was born. " The first that she knew of him was his going out in the Dover Castle East Indiaman, and when he came home he lodged in her house. He then went out a voyage in the Roxburgh Castle, and had been home about twelve weeks before the murders. On the Saturday after Williamson's murder she remarked something strange and unusual about his face ; but she could not tell what it was, until her sister mentioned to her that Williams had cut off part of his whiskers. She shewed Williams's muddy stockings to a lodger, named Glass, who requested her to turn Williams out of the house ; but she said she would not, until she gave him in charge to an officer, for she was afraid, when she suspected him of the murders, that he would have murdered her. She never had any suspicion of

him until the meal and stockings were produced. Williams was always a man of insinuating manners, and who made remarkably free wherever he went. When she was in conversation, in Williams's presence, with any person who might be a stranger to him, he would always join in it; but, after the murders, when she used to be expressing her horror at them to any one in Williams's presence, he would walk out into the passage, as if to listen to their conversation. Once she said to him, how shocked she was at the murder of poor Mrs. Williamson, who was as good a neighbour as ever she had known. Williams said, it was indeed a shocking thing. No one ever called on her to ask after Williams since he was first in custody, but a person named Fowler, who said he would soon be cleared.

Mr. Lawrence, the landlord of the Ship and Royal Oak public-house, spoke of the familiarity with which Williams used to come into his house, and sit in the bar. He never liked the man, and he always wished him to keep away from his house. That Williams had two or three times said, as if stung with remorse, "that he knew not what was the matter with him, for he felt uneasy, and was unhappy in his mind."

Miss Lawrence, the daughter of the last witness, stated, that Williams used to come into her father's house, and sit in the bar with the utmost familiarity. She never approved of his conduct. She told him on Saturday week, not to shew his face any more in her father's house, and she had not seen him since. On Friday, in the evening, he came into their house with his coat off, and said he wanted to find the police officers. He was then very tipsy. Some people in the tap-room began to play tricks with him. A snuff-box was handed about with some coal-ashes mixed among the snuff, of which he partook when it was given to him; upon which he was going to strike the person who gave it to him, but was prevented by somebody's interposition.

There was no fighting, nor was Williams struck ; nor was his mouth cut, as he represented, for the purpose of accounting for the blood on his shirt. He then went away, but in half an hour afterwards he returned, and behaved very peaceably.

John Harrison, the sail-maker, and fellow-lodger of Williams, was next examined. He stated, that he saw Williams in company with the carpenter (Hart). He had heard that this was the same man who had been working in Mr. Marr's house. Williams came home about half past 12, on the night Mr. Marr and family were murdered. In the morning, when witness heard of the murder, he told Mrs. Vermilloc, the landlady. He then went up stairs to Williams, and told him also : Williams replied, in a surly manner, " I know it." He was then in bed, and had not been out that morning. Witness said, he might possibly have overheard him telling Mrs. Vermilloc. That morning Williams walked out by himself. Witness had been reading the newspapers, containing an account of the murder of Mr. Marr, and when he found the muddy stockings behind his chest, something like suspicion struck him. He then brought the stockings down stairs, and shewed them to Mrs. Vermilloc, and several other people. From this circumstance, and from the general conduct of Williams, he was persuaded he was concerned in the murder. He had told the witness that he was well acquainted with Mr. Marr.

One day, as he was walking from the city with Williams, he said, that he believed Mr. Marr had money to a considerable amount. When he shewed him the muddy stockings, he took them into the back yard and washed them, at first in a rough manner in cold water ; and when witness afterwards saw them, they were quite clean. As witness slept in the same room, he had an opportunity of observing his conduct since the murders. As he strongly suspected he was concerned in them, he longed for an opportunity of

searching his clothes, for some marks of blood. He was, however, always baffled in his intentions; for, whenever he attempted to approach his bed, he found him awake. He always seemed restless, continually turning about in his bed, and much agitated. He overheard him speaking in his sleep. One night since the murder, he heard him say in his sleep, "Five shillings in my pocket—my pockets all full of silver." Witness called out to him repeatedly, what is the matter with you, and what do you mean? but he got no answer from him. When he slept, he did not seem to be soundly asleep, but always disturbed. In the morning after the murder of Williamson, he saw a pair of muddy shoes under Williams's bed. Witness had always an impression on his mind against the prisoner, and always wished for an opportunity of bringing forward some evidence against him.

Mr. Lee, the landlord of the Black Horse public-house, stated, that Williams always used to make very free in his house. He was accustomed to come into the bar and sit down. He has seen him push against his wife, and shake her pockets, as if to ascertain what money she had. On one occasion he took the liberty of pulling out the till, and putting his hand into it. Witness remonstrated with him, and said he never suffered any body to meddle with his till but his own family. Williams replied, he only wanted to get a halfpenny. He never thought very seriously of this matter until he heard of Williams being apprehended. On the night Mr. Williamson was murdered, he was standing at his own door, which is directly opposite, waiting for his wife and niece to come from the Royalty theatre. There was nobody in the house but himself and two female servants. His thoughts were then occupied in considering the atrocious murder of Mr. Marr and family, when he heard the faint voice of a man crying "Watch, watch!" It appeared to proceed from Mr. Williamson's house. At that time the alarm of murder was not given, but he afterwards

supposed it was the old man crying out for relief, after he had been wounded. In about seven minutes afterwards he saw Turner descending from the window by the sheets. He, along with others, then went up to the house, and broke into it.

In consequence of Mrs. Vermiloe having said, "that if Cornelius Hart had been examined by the magistrates as closely as she had been, something more would have come out," Hart was again brought before the magistrates, when he gave precisely the same account of himself that he had on his previous examinations, and his story having been confirmed by the enquiries of the officers, he was discharged. Harrison, the sailor, underwent a second examination, relative to a new French knife he had seen in the possession of Williams, which circumstance he had omitted to state on his former examination. He had asked Williams to return a handkerchief he had lent him, to which Williams replied, "Go and take it out of my pocket;" on doing which, the knife fell out—it had a white ivory handle and narrow blade. Williams told him he had just bought it. This circumstance occurred three weeks before. The witness, after Williams was taken into custody, searched his chest, as well as every part of the Pear-tree public-house, for the knife, but without success. Notwithstanding the suggestion of the surgeon who attended the coroner's inquest on the bodies of the Williamson family, that the throats had been cut with a razor, there can be little doubt but this dreadful deed must have been accomplished with this instrument, which, though probably not so sharp, must have been, from its firmness, much more convenient for such a purpose.—The magistrates, in consequence of a suggestion that Williams might have thrown the watch he had taken from Mr. Williamson into the necessary, behind the house of Mrs. Vermiloe, ordered the place in question to be emptied, and rigidly examined, where it is probable the knife might also

have been secreted. This was done, and a pair of blue trousers, rolled up, was found, pushed down by an old broom, as far as the handle could push it, but nothing else; but this very knife was found on Tuesday, January 14th, 1812.—That knife could never be found in Williams's trunk, nor amongst any of the clothes he left behind him at the Pear-tree public-house. The subsequent search to find that deadly instrument was crowned with success. On Tuesday, Harrison, one of the lodgers at the Pear-tree, in searching amongst some old clothes, found a blue jacket, which he himself immediately recognized as part of Williams's apparel. He proceeded to examine it closely, and upon looking at the inside pocket, he found it quite stiff with coagulated blood, as if a blood-stained hand had been thrust into it. He brought it down to Mrs. Vermilloe, who immediately sent for Hope, and another of the Shadwell Police officers, to make further search in the house. Every apartment then underwent the most rigid examination, and after a search of about an hour and a half, the officers came at last to a small closet, the one in which they discovered the object of their pursuit. In one corner of it there was a heap of dirty stockings and other clothes, which being removed, they observed a bit of wood protruding from a mouse-hole in the wall, which they immediately drew out, and at the same instant, they discovered the handle of a clasp knife, apparently dyed with blood, which upon being brought forth, proved to be the identical French knife seen in Williams's possession before the murders. The handle and blade of it were smeared all over with blood. This important fact completes the chain of strong circumstantial evidence already adduced against the suicide.

On Friday evening, a coroner's inquest was held at Cold Bath-fields prison, before John Unwin, Esq. on the body of John Williams, who had hanged himself in his cell.

Mr. Thomas Webb, the surgeon of the prison, deposed,

that he found the deceased lying on his back on the bed, where he had been placed by the person who had cut him down; he was dead and cold, and had been dead many hours, and he had no doubt that he died from strangulation. Williams had told him the day before, that he was perfectly easy and satisfied; for that nothing could happen to him. Francis Knott, and Henry Harris, two prisoners in the same prison, had been called by the turnkey, Joseph Becket, about half past seven o'clock, to cut the deceased down, who was found hanging by his handkerchief, fastened to a rail on which the prisoners hang their clothes. He was in what are called the re-examination cells, and left as persons in his situation always are.

William Hassel, clerk to the prison, deposed that the deceased was committed on the 24th of December for re-examination. He was confined in the re-examination cells, and was ironed on the right leg, and considered as secure. To some questions put to him by the witness, he said he was 27 years of age, was a sea-faring man, and a Scotsman. On witness observing to him that his situation was awkward, he said he was not guilty, and hoped the saddle would be placed on the right horse.

Joseph Becket, the turnkey, deposed to nearly the same circumstances: he had locked up the deceased at about ten minutes before four the preceding afternoon, then apparently in perfect health, and found him in the morning hanging to the rail of his cell, with his feet nearly, or quite touching the ground, and quite dead.

The Jury, after an appropriate address from the Coroner, brought in their verdict, *felo de se*.

Mr. Capper, and Mr. Markland, magistrates of Shadwell office, attended the inquest. Mr. Adkins, the keeper of the prison, was so indisposed that he was unable to attend, nothing appearing to affect his conduct, by any charge of inattention to the care of the prisoner.

Shortly after ten o'clock on Monday night, December 30th, Mr. Robinson, the high constable of the parish of St. George, accompanied by Mr. Machin, one of the constables, Mr. Harrison, the collector, and Mr. Robinson's deputy, went to the prison of Cold Bath-fields, where the body of Williams being delivered to them, was put into a hackney coach, in which the deputy constable proceeded to the watch-house of St. George, known by the name of the Round-about, at the bottom of Ship-alley, in Ratcliff-high-way. The three other gentlemen followed in another coach, and about 12 o'clock the body was deposited in the black-hole, where it remained until morning.

Tuesday morning, about ten o'clock, he was placed on a platform, erected six feet above a very high cart, drawn by one horse. The platform was composed of rough deals fastened together, raised considerably at the head, which elevated the corpse. A board was fixed across the lower end, standing up about six inches, to prevent the body from slipping off. On this platform the body was laid; it had on a clean white shirt, very neatly frilled, quite open at the neck, and without a neck handkerchief or hat, but the hair combed, and the face clean washed. The countenance looked healthful and ruddy, but the hands and lower part of the arms were of a deep purple, nearly black. The lower part of the body was covered with a pair of clean blue trowsers, and brown worsted stockings, without shoes. The feet were towards the horse; on the right leg was affixed the iron Williams had on when he was committed to prison. The fatal maul was placed upright by the left side of his head, and the ripping-chisel or crow-bar, about three feet long, on the other side. About ten o'clock, the procession, attended by the head constable, and headboroughs of the district, on horseback, and about 250 or 300 constables and extra constables, most of them with drawn cutlasses, began to move, and continued at a very slow pace, until they came



opposite the house of the unfortunate Murr, in Ratcliff-highway, where they stopped for about a quarter of an hour. By the shaking of the cart, the head of Williams had got turned to one side, and looked from the house where the murder was committed; but before the cart left the place, a person ascended the platform, and placed the face of the corpse directly opposite the scene of atrocity. The procession went down Old Gravel-lane by Wapping-wall; and continued slowly to approach the spot where the second murder was perpetrated; on reaching which, it stood for another quarter of an hour, and then proceeded, again entering Ratcliff-highway, and passing along it until it came to Cannon-street, where it turned up; and on reaching the top, where the New-road crosses, and the Cannon-street road begins, a large hole being prepared, the cart stopped. After a pause of about ten minutes, the body was thrown into the infamous grave, amidst the acclamations of thousands of spectators. The stake which the law requires to be driven through the corpse had been placed in the procession under the head of Williams, by way of a pillow; and after he was consigned to the earth, it was handed down from the platform, and with the maul was driven through the body. The grave was then filled with quick-lime, and the spectators very quietly dispersed. During the whole procession, all ranks of persons who were present conducted themselves with a solemnity rarely witnessed in the east part of the town; and until the body was lowering into the earth, hardly a whisper was to be heard in the street. Not a single accident happened. Williams was buried close to the turnpike-gate in the Cannon-street road.

It would appear, that from the time of Williams's apprehension, he contemplated his own destruction; and finally resolved upon it, when the identity of the maul had been made out. His intention is to be inferred from the circumstance of there being found in his pocket, in the House of

Correction, after his death, a piece of iron hoop, sufficiently sharp to wound himself mortally. It excited surprise at first how he came by this piece of hoop; not having it with him when taken into custody, nor was any thing found upon him when he was put into the lock-up-house. The officers at length discovered, that part of the iron-fastenings which secured the walls of the place, for the temporary confinement of prisoners, in the Lebeck's Head, opposite Shadwell Office, was removed; and upon comparing the piece of iron hoop with the broken part of the fastening, the precise correspondence was obvious: it is therefore concluded, that during his short confinement, after his last examination, he broke it away, and reserved it for his purpose.



## SOME ACCOUNT OF JOHN WILLIAMS.

John Williams, the supposed murderer, was born at Bandon, in the county of Cork, about the year 1781, and was consequently at the time of the before-mentioned murders, 30 years of age; he stood about five feet nine inches high; it is generally believed that his real name was Murphy, and that he had changed it to that of Williams, in order to escape detection for some crimes of which he had been formerly guilty. Of his early life, little or nothing is known with certainty. Whether he was in his native country at the time of the unhappy troubles of 1798, can only be a matter of conjecture; but it is certainly not unnatural to suppose, that a monster capable of committing these atrocities, must early in life have lost that innate horror of bloodshed, which forms so striking a feature in the moral constitution of man. In the dreadful paths of rebellion, probably it was that he was first tempted to embrace his hands in the blood of his fellow-creatures; and amidst those terrible scenes of midnight murder, which that unhappy country then afforded, might his sinful conscience have been seared to every feeling of repentance and remorse.

At what period he entered on the seafaring life is not ascertained; but it was probably at an advanced age, and had been driven to it by his former bad conduct: he possessed an address superior to his situation, and wrote a good hand. In the year 1808, he entered on board the *Dover Castle* East Indiaman, in which he was registered as an able seaman. In this same vessel, and on this same voyage, the ill-fated Marr became his shipmate, having engaged himself in the capacity of captain's servant. The conduct of the two formed, it is said, a striking contrast:—Marr was sober, diligent, peaceable, and obliging; and by his services gained so greatly the esteem of his master, that on their return to England, the captain, in conjunction with another friend, supplied him with the means of taking the house in Ratcliff-highway, and of commencing business. Williams, on the contrary, was idle, drunken, dissolute, and quarrelsome, and so continually involved in disgrace, that, on his quitting the ship, the captain is said to have prophesied, that he would come to an untimely end.

In August 1810, Williams shipped himself in the name of John Williamson, on board the *Roxburgh Castle*, Captain Hutchinson, bound to the Brazils. The ship having been detained a long time at Rio Janeiro, proceeded afterwards for a cargo to Demerara, from whence she returned on the 3d or 4th of October 1811, at which time Williams was discharged, and paid upwards of 40*l.* the balance of his wages. As sailors on a long voyage, under strict discipline, have not an opportunity of doing much mischief, Captain Hutchinson cannot relate much of Williams's misconduct; but mentions his attempting to impose himself upon a man at Rio Janeiro, as second mate of the *Roxburgh Castle*, and by that means obtaining a small sum of money. It was this circumstance that drew from Capt. Hutchinson the expression attributed to him, "that if he lived to go on shore, he would certainly be hanged."

Williams always endeavoured to pass as a native of Scotland; but Captain Hutchinson, who is himself from that country, easily discovered him to be an Irishman, and supposed him to be from the county of Down. When paid his wages by the owners, he represented himself to them as coming from Campbeltown, in Argyleshire. Besides the fraud committed on the second mate of the Roxburgh Castle, Williams was engaged in a mutiny.

Captain Hutchinson, in his late voyage, had altogether a very bad crew; and whilst proceeding from Rio Janeiro to Demerara, when off Surinam, they broke into open mutiny; upon which Captain Hutchinson anchored under the guns of the fort at Braam's-point; and applied to Captain Kennedy, of His Majesty's brig Forester, who by threats and persuasion procured their return to their duty. Three of the principals in the business were sent into confinement at Surinam, for 24 hours; one of whom was William Allblas, the same person who was apprehended on suspicion of being concerned with Williams in the murders; but was discharged on the deposition of a woman, who, as it appeared, was interested in his fate. Williams on this occasion escaped punishment, having pleaded that he was led astray by his companions. John Harris, the sail-maker, who was the first to communicate his suspicions of the guilt of Williams, served on board the Roxburgh Castle in that capacity. He had the best opportunity of studying the character of the man.

It was, on his return from this voyage, early in October, that he came up to London, and, in a few days after his arrival, went to his former lodging at the Pear-tree public-house, and deposited 30*l.* in the hands of Mr. Vermilloe, the landlord; but had drawn the whole of it out within a small sum, at the period of the murders. Thus terminated a bloody catastrophe, which we believe is unequalled in the annals of human depravity, the effects of which will be remembered while memory has a seat in the brain. Such was

the terror that spread in consequence, that any kind of offensive weapon which could be procured, was bought to be preserved, in order it might be used against the future enemy.—Scarce a window but exhibited a musquet, a rattle or a broad sword; all the old iron shops were ransacked for weapons.—Alarum bells were held in requisition, and the females who were doomed to lay alone, passed their night in perturbation without sleep, while the more valiant of the other sex dared not retire to their beds without some instrument of defence under their pillow. The philosopher and moralist were puzzled and alarmed; the former in vain attempted to account for this change in the national character, while the latter placed to the frequent pugilistical combats and bull-baits, this new trait of brutal ferocity in the English character. At this time there was no peace with France which might otherwise, from the number of hands being out of employ, make these excesses of the transported murderers at least more rational to account for. And these cowardly attacks were made on inoffensive people, not by the revengeful Italian, or vindictive Portuguese—but by a man of his sister country with England, and this for a time threw a stigma on the generous Briton, as new as it was cruel.

#### A RADDISH IN THE SHAPE OF A HUMAN HAND

THE raddish here represented, the roots of which exactly resemble a human hand, was found in 1558, at Haerlem in Holland, in a sandy soil, and a painting was made of it by Jacob Penoy. This picture was, in 1672, presented to Glandorp, by his friend Zuckerbecker. Our engraving copied from the above.

In addition to the above, Mr. J. Bisset, secretary to the Museum at Birmingham, in a letter to the publisher of the Wonderful Museum, dated December 24th, 1802, says





*addish.*

*London Marine Yards - 1790*



*C. b. Parvifera*

The earth round this place, for more than two miles, has this extraordinary property, that by taking up two or three inches of the surface, and applying a live coal to it, the part so uncovered immediately takes fire, almost before the coal touches the earth. The flame makes the soil hot, but does not consume it, nor affect what is near to it with any degree of heat. It is said, that eight horses were once consumed by this fire, being under a roof where the surface of the ground had been turned up, and by some accident had taken flame. If a cane, or tube of paper, be set about two inches in the ground, closed with earth below, and the top of it touched with a live coal, a flame will immediately issue out, without consuming the tube, provided the edges be covered with clay. Three or four of these lighted canes will boil water in a pot, and are sometimes used to cook victuals. The flame may be extinguished in the same manner as that of spirits of wine. It smells sulphureous, like naphtha, but is not very offensive. Dr. James Mounsey says, there is a caravansary, where twelve Indian priests and other devotees live, who worship the fire, which, according to their traditions, has burnt many thousand years. It is a very old vaulted building, and in its walls are a great many chinks, to which, if a candle be applied, the fire catches instantaneously, and runs rapidly to wherever the chinks communicate; but it may be easily extinguished: they have hollow places in the house, fitted to their pots, which they boil without any other fuel; and instead of candles, they stick reeds into the ground. Another astonishing thing is, they burn lime of the stones dug hereabouts, first, making a hole in the ground, and then heaping the stones on each other. This done, on applying fire to the hollow, a flame bursts out, and is dispersed at once, with a very great crack, through the whole heap of stones; and after it has continued burning for three days, the lime is ready: but stones placed in this fire, for setting their pots



on, never turn to lime, which cannot be made, but by heaping them on each other.

*Phil. Trans.* Vol. 45, p. 296.

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## A HUMAN BODY CONVERTED INTO HAIR.

FROM THE ACTS OF LEIPSIK.

ABOUT forty-three years ago, a woman was interred at Nuremberg, in a wooden coffin, painted black, according to the custom of the country. The earth wherein her body was deposited, was dry and yellow, as it is, for the most part, in the environs of that city. Of three bodies buried in the same grave, this woman's was laid the deepest in the ground; and there being occasion to make room for a fourth body, the grave was dug up anew; but, to the great surprise of the grave-digger, when he had removed the two uppermost coffins, he perceived a considerable quantity of hair that had made its way through the slits and crevices of the coffin. The lid being taken off, there appeared to be a perfect resemblance of the human figure; the eyes, nose, mouth, ears, and all other parts of the body being very distinct; but from the crown of the head to the soles of the feet, it was covered with very long, thick, and frizzled hair. The grave-digger, after examining it for some time, happened to touch the uppermost part of the head; but was more surprised than before, on seeing the entire body shrink, and nothing at last remain in his hand, but a bundle of rough hair, which insensibly assumed a brownish red colour. Part of the hair was preserved, in a paper, at Gresham College, and there examined by the Royal Society. Dr. Tyson describes three subjects of hair, growing on the tongue, and in the interior of the heart, and on its surface, in the breasts and kidneys, &c.: in the Philosophical Collections of Mr. Hooke, who

also tells us, on the testimony of Mr. Arnold, that a man, hanged at Tyburn, for theft, was found, in a very short time after he was taken away from the gallows, covered over, in a very extraordinary manner, with hair.

*Ann. Reg.* 1763. *Nat. Hist.* p. 71; and *Phil. Trans.* Vol. 2. p. 10.

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A WONDERFUL AND PROVIDENTIAL

**PRESERVATION OF THE TOWN OF ST. HELIER,**

IN THE ISLAND OF JERSEY, BY THE FORTITUDE OF  
EDWARD TOUZEE, ON MONDAY JUNE THE 4TH, 1804.

THE following particulars appeared in the Sunday Monitor, June the 17th, 1804.

*Jersey, June 9.*—Monday being the birth-day of our beloved Sovereign, the inhabitants of this place vied with each other in eagerness to express their feelings on the occasion, by every mark of loyalty. In the morning the royal flag was hoisted on the hill, and the colours were displayed by all the ships in the harbour. At noon, Fort Elizabeth fired a royal salute, which was answered by Fort St. Aubin and the other new Forts on the hill, as well as by three discharges from all the regiments stationed here, and by three loud huzzas in honour of His Majesty. At one o'clock the vessels in the road fired also a royal salute. The Commander gave a splendid dinner on the occasion, and the day concluded with a brilliant ball; but unfortunately the public joy was interrupted for a moment by a terrible accident, which threatened the whole town and a great part of the island with instant destruction. Thanks, however, to Divine Providence, we were preserved by the brave efforts and devotion of two inhabitants of this town, the details of which are contained in the following note:

To the proprietors of houses in the town of St. Helier and neighbourhood ;

Monday, the 4th of this month, being the anniversary of the birth day of our gracious Sovereign, all the Forts in this Island fired a royal salute at noon, by order of his Excellency the Commander in Chief. The cannon in the new Fort on the large hill were also fired. A corporal of the Invalid Company of Artillery then received the matches, and locked them up in the powder magazine at the top of the hill ; it contained 209 barrels of gunpowder, charged bombs, caissons, full of cartridges of every kind, and a great quantity of other combustibles. The magazine was then shut and the keys carried out of the fort. About six in the evening the soldiers on guard observed smoke issuing through an air-hole, at one of the ends of the magazine, and immediately ran from the Fort.

Mr. P. Lys, the signal officer on the hill, seeing from the watch-house the soldiers in motion, and hearing them call out fire, ran out before they had all set off, and approaching the magazine, observed the smoke issuing through the two air holes at the two ends. Having found Thomas Touzee and Edward Touzee, two brothers, (carpenters) who had come to assist him to take down a temporary ensign staff, he sent the former to acquaint the Commander in Chief of the danger with which the magazine was threatened, and to Captain Salmon, of the artillery, to get the keys. Touzee used every effort to induce his brother to quit the spot, representing to him the danger to which he would be exposed if he remained. Edward Touzee replied, that he must die some day, and that he would attempt to save the magazine and the town at the hazard of his life ; and seeing a soldier making his escape, he proposed to him to remain to assist in breaking open the magazine, which he refused to do. He then proposed the same thing to another soldier, named William Pontiney, of the light company of the 3d regiment,

who acquiesced in his demand, saying that he was ready to die with him, and they shook hands. Edward Touzee then took a wooden bar, with which he broke the barrier of the palisade which surrounds the magazine, and finding at hand a kind of axe, he got to the door of the magazine, where he broke also two padlocks, and having by these means opened the door, he entered, and addressing himself to Mr. Lys, who was on the outside, said, "the magazine is on fire, it will blow up. We must lose our lives, but no matter, *huzza for the King!* We must try to save it." With these words he rushed into the flames, and seized the matches almost burnt out, he threw them by arm-fuls to Mr. P. Lys, and W. Pontiney who had remained without; Mr. Lys seeing a cask standing on one end filled with water in the neighbourhood of the magazine, he and W. Pontiney made use of their hats and a pitcher to carry water to Edward Touzee, who was still in the magazine, but scarcely able to see, in consequence of the thick smoke that surrounded him; observing, however, some wood on fire, he extinguished it with the water brought him. At length, thank God! the fire was entirely extinguished by the zeal and intrepidity of Edward Touzee in particular, and of Mr. P. Lys, and W. Pontiney. Captain Leith of the 31st regiment, and Mr. Murphy, of the same regiment, the officer on guard, and several officers of His Majesty's troops, repaired with soldiers to the hill. As soon as they were informed of the danger to which the magazine was exposed, Captain Leith, and the officers who commanded the soldiers, and all the other officers with him, employed the utmost activity to get the magazine entirely emptied, in order to ascertain whether any sparks remained in it: and, wonderful providence! which saved the town of St. Helier and its inhabitants from the greatest of all misfortunes, two caissons of wood, filled with ammunition, were found attacked by the fire, and one in particular, in which there were powder-horns, tubes, and a flannel car-

tridge, was half burnt through. Near this caisson stood an open barrel of powder, to which the fire, had it not been extinguished, must inevitably have been soon communicated. A rammer was almost consumed, and some of the beams which supported the roof were on fire. Such was the state of things when E. Touzee, Mr. P. Lys, and W. Pontiney displayed heroic courage and bravery, exposed their lives to the most imminent danger, and thereby saved the town of St. Helier and its inhabitants from the most terrible disaster. The Constable, therefore, finds himself impelled both by duty and inclination, to request all persons who have property in the town of St. Helier and its neighbourhood, to meet on Wednesday next, the 13th inst. in the church of St. Helier, at ten in the morning, to take into consideration the means of testifying their gratitude to these three brave and generous men, who were not afraid, in so perilous a crisis, of devoting themselves for the safety of their fellow citizens.

(Signed)

THOMAS ANLEY, Constable of St. Helier.  
*St. Helier, June 7, 1804.*

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AN ACCOUNT OF  
A WOMAN BURIED IN SNOW,

SIX DAYS, WITHOUT RECEIVING ANY NOURISHMENT, &c.

BY MR. SAMUEL BOWDICH.

JOANNA CRIPPEN, of Chardstock in Dorset, being a spinner of worsted, was going home on the 24th of January 1713, with some work, but it snowing very hard, and being very deep, she was forced to lie down under an hedge, having lost one of her shoes; and her clothes, which were very mean, were by the brambles and thorns torn almost quite off

her back ; in which place she lay from Monday evening about six o'clock, until the Sunday following about four in the afternoon, and then was discovered by some of our neighbours, who went out with poles, shovels, &c. to search for her ; and after some time spent in it, at last found her buried four feet deep in snow. One of the men thrusting at her with his pole, found she was there and alive. She immediately spoke, and begged he would not push her too hard, for she was almost naked ; and desired some of the women might come to her, and take her out, which was accordingly done ; when they found her without stockings or shoes, an old-whittle about her shoulders, with a large hole in it, which she had eaten through ; the snow melting down on her she drank to quench her thirst. She had a mortification on one of her great toes, but she now is very hearty, and in a fair way of perfect recovery. She was very sensible at the first taking her out, and still continued so ; and she knew every body perfectly well ; and yet she had taken no manner of food all the time of her being in the snow.

*Phil. Trans.* Vol. 28, p. 265.

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THE WONDERFUL PHENOMENON OF  
REFLECTING VISIONS,

SEEN ON THE SUMMIT OF PAMBAMOREA, A MOUNTAIN IN  
SOUTH AMERICA, WITH THE SURPRISING SAGACITY OF THE  
MULES IN PASSING THEM.

DON George Juan de Ulloa, M. Bouguer, and others, on traversing the vast regions of South America, in May 1774, perceived a wonderful phenomenon on Pambamorea. They say, we are told that there are fiery meteors about these mountains, sometimes so high in the air, as to resemble stars, and some-

times so low, as to frighten the mules by buzzing about their ears and feet. But a phenomenon, which in this climate must appear very extraordinary, is said by M. Bouguer to happen almost every day on the tops of these mountains; though these gentlemen were the first who ever mentioned them in Europe. The first time our authors observed it was, when they were on the summit of Pambamotea, a mountain not so high as Pichincha. A cloud, in which they were involved at break of day dissipating, they saw the rising sun extremely splendid, and the cloud passed on the other side, opposite to the sun, where it appeared very thin, and was about twenty yards distant from the place where they were standing, when each of them saw in it, as in a looking-glass, his own image, and, what appeared still more extraordinary, the head was encompassed with a glory, like that seen round the heads of Saints in pictures; each head being as it were, the centre of three concentric irises of very lively colours, and each with the same varieties as a rainbow, the red being outward; the last or most external colours of one touched the first of the following; and, at some distance from them all, was a fourth arch, entirely white. These were perpendicular to the horizon; and, as the person moved, the phenomenon moved also. But, what was very extraordinary, though there were six or seven persons, each could see none but his own shadow, because the cloud had an uneven surface. The diameter of the arches gradually, altered with the ascent of the sun above the horizon, and the phenomenon itself, after continuing a considerable time, insensibly vanished. Several of the gentlemen, both French and Spaniards, have particularly described this phenomenon, and M. Bouguer concludes with saying, "This was a kind of apotheosis to each spectator;—and I cannot forbear mentioning again, that each enjoyed the secret pleasure of seeing himself adorned with all these crowns, without perceiving those of his neigh-

hours. I must however, observe, that this phenomenon never appears but when the aqueous particles of the cloud are frozen."

Ulloa observes, that the roads over some of these mountains are not the least of those many extraordinary particulars relating to them. These are in many places so narrow, that the mules have scarcely room to set their feet, and in others there is a continued series of precipices. These roads are likewise full of holes, near three quarters of a yard deep, into which the mules put their fore and hind feet, whence they sometimes draw their bellies, and their rider's legs along the ground. These holes indeed serve as steps, without which the precipices would be in a manner impassable; but, should the mule happen to put his feet between two of these holes, or not place them right, the rider falls; and, if on the side of the precipice, inevitably perishes. But the manner of descending appears more dangerous. On one side are frequently abysses, and as they generally follow the direction of the mountain, the road, instead of being on a level, forms steep eminences and declivities. The mules are sensible of the caution necessary in these descents; for, coming to the top of an eminence, they stop, and having placed their fore feet close together, put their hind feet a little forwards, as if going to lie down. Having in this attitude taken a survey of the road, they slide down with the swiftness of a meteor. All the rider has to do is to keep himself fast in the saddle; for the least motion is sufficient to disorder the equilibrium of the mule, in which case, they both unavoidably perish. "Nothing," says our author, "can be more amazing than the animal's address on this occasion; for during this rapid motion, when he seems to have lost all government of himself, he follows, with the utmost exactness, the different windings of the road, as if he had accurately settled in his mind, all the turnings he was to follow, and taken every precaution for his safety. Yet the longest practice in



travelling these roads, cannot entirely free these mules from a kind of dread, which they experience on arriving at the top of a steep declivity ; for they not only attentively view the road, but tremble and snort at the danger. If the rider inadvertently endeavour to spur them on, they continue immoveable ; till, at length, having overcome the first emotions of their fear, they stretch out their fore legs, that by preserving a proper balance, they may not pitch head forwards ; and it is wonderful to consider, how they make with their body, all the gentle inclinations necessary to enable them to follow the several windings of the road, and afterwards, their address in stopping themselves at the end of their impetuous career."

*Ulloa's Voyages.*

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AN ACCOUNT OF A  
WATER SPOUT.

MR. ROBERT DICKSON, of Cockermouth, gives a particular account, dated October 15, 1760, of the havock made by a water spout, that happened at Brackenthwaite, about six miles from Cockermouth, in Cumberland, on October 9, 1760. The village of Brackenthwaite, which is part of a large valley, extending from N. to S. about five miles in length, and one and a half in breadth, is bounded on the east, by a ridge of very lofty mountains, running from N. to S., the southernmost of which, Grassmere, is reputed the highest in England, except Skiddaw. Its top is quite level, and exceeding spacious, so as almost to equal in area of its base ; and three others, northward of it, pretty high regular ascent, with a greater or lesser acclivity, according to the different distance of their rise from the plain, so as all to unite in one narrow summit, somewhat lower than Grassmere, with the extremity whereof it is connected by a

narrow inclined plain. Down the gullies between these several mountains, descend three small brooks, Lizza, Hopebeck, and Habearton, in streams little more than sufficient to turn an ordinary mill; the first of which enters the plain about the middle, and the second, the most northern part of Brackenthwaite; and the third, further northward, at the village of Larton. On the summit, which is common to all the three mountains, and forms, as it were, their joint top, seems to have been one of the breakings or falls of water, as all the three brooks were affected by it, and perhaps pretty nigh equally. But what made the mischiefs produced by the others less considerable than that by Lizza, was, a second spout on the extremity of the top of Grassmere, the whole of whose waters fell into its channel. This second was the chief cause of the damage which ensued in the valley, not only as it produced, in all probability, a much greater quantity of water than the other; but principally by the vast quantity of rubbish which it brought along with it, the whole side of the mountain, down which it rushed with inconceivable rapidity, being covered with vast heaps of stones, beds of gravel, sand, earth, &c. which lying loose, were easily carried away with so impetuous a torrent. Such a mixture, carried with the velocity it must necessarily acquire down a slope of a mile in length, and so steep as to make an angle of 60 degrees with the horizon, could not but make a terrible havock in the valley. The channel of the brook being rocky, and its bank rising to a considerable height on each side, from the place of the water of the second spout's falling into the Lizza, and mixing with that of the other down to the plain, it was so far kept within pretty good bounds; but it was no sooner freed from these restraints, than it made the most dreadful devastation. Of the first field it entered, it has swept away both the soil and the gravel, quite to the rock; and the second, consisting of ten or twelve acres, is entirely buried under a sand bank, of

such a thickness, as never to tirely moved, nor the field recovered; instead of the old ch<sup>an</sup>perien<sup>h</sup>ich did not exceed five or six yards in breadth, and only not ept<sup>h</sup>, a new one is now being dug, not 18 or 20 yort at the leadth, and one ard, a half ue<sup>er</sup>ior to the old. h<sup>ou</sup>ur them an overflowed its banks on each side, in such a, h<sup>ou</sup>ur stream, as to be able, at the distance of a quarter of a mile, to wash away a remarkable thick and strong wall; and, what is more wonderful, on the other side, where on the smooth surface of the meadow, there seemed nothing to resist its progress, in some places to tear up some masses of earth, which can no where be found, so as to leave a pit, twelve yards and a half deep, and of 800 or 1000 yards in area. Several other pits, it is thought, were made, and afterwards filled up again with stones and sand, otherwise it is difficult to imagine how the vast quantities of stones which composed the walls nigh the brook, not one of which is remaining, should have disappeared. Such was the ruin it made in the meadows and arable ground, when at full liberty to spread itself, and as it were to roam at large. But impatient of restraint, it was no sooner, by the inclination of the ground, reduced within more scanty limits, than it began to rage indignant, with redoubled fury. Two meadows were entirely taken away, and a bed of sand left in their place. Its course being afterwards through a wood, not a tree within its reach was left standing. Two stone bridges, well built, and exceeding strong, were carried away with the torrent, and not one remnant of the materials which composed them to be found; nay, what is more strange, a causeway of prodigious breadth, supported by a most enormous bank of earth, which is remembered to have maintained its identity these hundred years, and which seemed, by its venerable antique face, to have survived the deluge, and to bid defiance to tempests, has been swept from its foundation, and its place left in the possession of the victorious stream. In short, not to insist

longer on particulars, for what followed would only be a repetition of what precedes, with difference of place, nothing which fell in its way was able to resist its fury before hedges, stones, walls, <sup>first</sup> bridges, pier Abbas, in <sup>the</sup> and whatever opposed it, the second <sup>step</sup> a whirl-pool torrent, till the place where the brook discharged itself into the river Cocker. Here an end was put to its fury, for though the channel of the river was far from being capacious enough to receive the whole of the water, yet, on account of the vast level plain on each side, its overflowings were innocent, as it could only deluge to be stagnant. Happily no houses were within its reach, though one very narrowly escaped, the ground being all carried away to a considerable depth within two yards of it, where the solid rock began, on which the house was founded; and a mill only escaped by the channel's accidentally diverting its force from it to the opposite bank, which was all torn to pieces. I endeavoured but in vain, to get data sufficient on which to build a calculation on the quantity of water which came down; for as it happened at midnight, neither the time of its continuance could be ascertained, nor could it be determined, whether it was constant or variable. A clergyman in the neighbourhood was of opinion, that all the water of Crummack, an adjacent lake of two square miles surface, and very deep, could not have done half so much harm. It is certain indeed, from one circumstance, that it must have been very great; as the water remained the next morning in a widow's cottage, twelve feet perpendicular above the surface of the water, and at the distance of thirty yards from the brook; and, as the ground was lower on the opposite bank to the distance of fifty yards, there must have been a stream of at least four or five yards deep, and eighty or ninety in breadth, and this where it ran with the greatest rapidity at the foot of the mountain.

The effects of the brooks of Hopebeck and Habearton,

need not be so particularly described, being of the same kind with those, only in an inferior degree, both on account of their ~~being~~ swelled by one of the spouts only, and their channel being deeper. However, the damage done by those, though inferior to the other, was by no means inconsiderable. One circumstance relative to the former may perhaps deserve to be mentioned. Having burst its banks just at the place crossing the highway, it continued its course along a lane to a considerable distance before it found a passage into the field; and when the brook subsided, and the supply failed, much water remained stagnant in the hollows of the lane, particularly in one before the door of a house situated on the road. At this the people, not knowing how it could possibly come there, were greatly surprised; but much more, when they afterwards found in it a very fine dish of trout.

*Annual Register, 1760. Nat. Hist. p. 95.*

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### A WHIRLWIND,

AT WARRINGTON, 1694.

AT Warrington, in Northamptonshire, a terrible whirlwind happened between one and two o'clock in the afternoon of August 1, 1694. It took up into the air about 80 or 100 shocks of corn, carrying a great deal quite out of sight; the rest it scattered about the field, or on the tops of the houses, or neighbouring trees; some was carried a mile from the field: it was reported by persons of good credit, that some was carried four or five miles distant. The whirlwind continued in Acremont Close full half an hour; and three or four waggon loads of corn, all at one time, were whirled about the air.

*Phil. Trans. No. 212, p. 192.*

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## A WHIRLWIND AT CORNE-ABBAS, 1731.

On Saturday, Oct. 30, 1731, about a quarter before one in the night, there happened at Corne-Abbas, in Dorsetshire, a very sudden and terrible wind whirl-puff; some say it was a water spout, and others, a vapour or exhalation from the earth. It began on the south-west side of the town, passing directly to the north-east, crossing the middle of the town, in the breadth 200 yards. It stripped and uncovered tiled and thatched houses, rooted trees out of the ground, broke others in the midst, of at least four feet square, and carried the tops a considerable way. The sign of the New Inn, a sign five feet by four, was broken off, six feet in the pole, and carried across a street 40 feet in breadth, and over an opposite house. It took off and threw down the pinnacles and battlements of one side of the tower; by the fall of which, the leads and timber of great part of the north aisle of the church were broken in. The houses of all the town were so shocked, as to raise the inhabitants. No hurt was done, but only across the middle of the town, in a line, nor no life lost. No other parts of the neighbourhood or country, so much as felt or heard it. It is supposed, by the most judicious, that it began and ended within the space of two minutes. It was so remarkable a calm, a quarter after 12, that the exciseman walked through two streets, and turned a corner, with a naked lighted candle in his hand, unmolested and undisturbed by the air; and, as soon as over, a perfect calm, but was followed by a surprising violent rain.

*Phil. Trans.* Vol. 41, p. 229.



## A WHIRLWIND IN SOUTH CAROLINA, 1762.

May the 2nd, 1762, a whirlwind happened at Port Royal Island, in South Carolina, of the same nature as the great

storm, which did so much damage last year at Charles Town. (See Vol. I. p. 185.) This phenomenon was seen in the form of a column, 400 yards in diameter; it had a circular whirling motion, and proceeded with great violence from the N. W. to the S. E. It tore up trees, and carried away houses and bridges; it forced the waters into Broad River, out of its channel, and threw it up to a great distance.

*Annual Register, 1761, p. 80.*



#### A WHIRLWIND AT PARSON'S GREEN.

July 12, 1762, at Lord Peterborough's, at Parson's Green, just as the gardeners had left work to go to dinner, a whirlwind came, and took up seven of the bell glasses into the air, above 20 feet; one of them went over the garden wall into the King's Road, and nearly fell on a man's head, passing; three others were blown on the hot-house: what is remarkable, there being several rows of glasses, the seventh row was blown up, but none of the others were stirred.

*Annual Register, 1762, p. 90.*



#### A WHIRLWIND AT ANDERLICHT, 1763.

August 2, 1763, about six in the evening, there arose at Anderlicht, about a league from Brussels, a conflict of several winds, borne upon a thick fog. This conflict lasted four or five minutes, and was attended with a frightful hissing noise, which could be compared to nothing but the yellings of an infinite number of wild beasts. The clouds then opening, discovered a kind of very bright lightning, and in an instant the roofs of one side of the houses were carried off, and dispersed at a distance; above 1000 large trees were broken off near the ground, others towards the top, and others torn up by the roots, and many both of the branches and of the tops carried to the distance of 100 paces; whole cop-

pieces were laid on one side, as corn is by an ordinary wind. The glass of the windows which were most exposed, was shivered to pieces; a tent in a gentleman's garden was carried 4000 paces; and a branch, torn from a large tree, struck a girl on the forehead, as she was coming into town, and killed her on the spot. Some days before, there was a heavy rain, which overflowed, in the same direction, the very space of ground the whirlwind ravaged.

*Annual Register, 1763, p. 94.*



A WHIRLWIND AT FALMOUTH, 1803.

A phenomenon, which seldom occurs in this country, took place at Falmouth, January 1, 1803. About noon, a sudden whirlwind, extremely violent, passed with a rapid motion, over about a sixth part of the town, in a direction from S. to N. The noise was very great, and spread consternation among the inhabitants of that part of the town over which it passed, and the congregation assembled in the church, which lay in its course. The effects were so limited, as not to be felt in the least degree in any other part of the place. As it passed over the harbour, it was so violent, as to produce a cloud of thick spray, which obscured the vessels lying there, and on its clearing off, a ship, which lay near the centre of its direction, was seen thrown on her beam ends, her keel in sight. The roof of every house in its way was rified—several trees were eradicated—and its extreme violence was particularly evinced, in the circumstance of a large copper vane, on the tower of the church, being forced into a zig-zag, or indented form. The wind was not high when the tornado arose: its operation was altogether instantaneous, and an almost perfect calm immediately succeeded it. Fortunately there were no boats, nor vessels of any description under sail in the harbour; and it was also fortunate, that the inhabitants were assembled in the church: if there had



been many persons in the streets, they could not have escaped uninjured, from the large pieces of slate and stone which were blown from the houses, and strewed in the streets.

*British Press, January 4, 1803.*



#### A WHIRLWIND AT BLAGDON, 1812.

THE inhabitants of Blagdon, witnessed a remarkable phenomenon on Saturday July 11, 1812; about 4 o'clock, p. m. a quantity of hay, supposed to be 2 cwt. was caught up by a whirlwind from a field, while the air around was perfectly calm, and was carried high above the clouds over Mendip Hill. A number of rooks and swallows immediately collected together, and darting up, with much clamour, amongst the scattered hay, were seen pursuing it in circles through the air.

*Stafford Advertiser, July 18, 1812.*



#### A WHIRLWIND AT ANDOVER, 1806.

THE inhabitants of Andover were much alarmed on Thursday June 28, 1806, by a whirlwind, which, from the description, nearly resembled a West Indian tornado. It carried up three haycocks, in a field near the town, belonging to Mr. Thomas Heath, to an height past calculation, as a great portion of the hay was literally carried beyond the reach of the human eye. When seen again, the estimated height was upwards of 800 feet.—It fell in different parts of the town and neighbourhood, a portion of it full half a mile from the spot whence it was carried up. The consternation of the labourers in the fields was very great, but can easier be conceived than described.

*Bristol Mercantile Gazette, July 5, 1806.*



A WHIRLWIND AT BOWLBY, 1814.

A gentleman at Bowlby Alum Works, near Whitby, having engaged a chaise, December 22, 1814, which came before he was ready for it, ordered the driver to take out the horses. This had scarcely been done, when a tremendous squall caught the chaise, and threw it over a steep hill, and it was dashed into a thousand pieces.

*Letter from Whitehaven, December 22, 1814.*

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A WONDERFUL ACCOUNT OF  
A MAN SWALLOWING IRON, BRASS,  
AND OTHER HARD SUBSTANCES.

COMMUNICATED BY MR. ELAUD, AMIJAND, 1708.

A PERSON who had been an idiot from his infancy, died at Ostend, in the 33d year of his age ; his death having been preceded by 12 days continual fever, and a considerable tumor and pain about the region of the liver. For six weeks before his death, he spit or vomited blood, and had bloody stools. On opening the body, a large abscess or posthume was found in each lobe of the liver ; the stomach was extremely contracted and ponderous, containing 9 cart-wheel nails, and six others of a less size ; also a large and long iron screw ; two pair of compasses, the one having a circle 2 inches in diameter ; a middle size key ; a large iron pin, as thick as a man's thumb, and 4 inches long, with a ring at the end of it ; another of brass, but much less ; the handle of an iron spring knife, swallowed as it is believed entire, but the sides and two pieces forming its spring, found asunder ; though the pegs of the knife, tying those several pieces together, were not found ; the upper and lower ends of a brass pommel of a fire grate, weighing 9 ounces ; a

broad piece of lead weighing three ounces and a half; the whole consisting of 28 pieces, weighing between 2 and 3 pounds. These had been missed, and much sought for by his brother, at different times. They were found all in a bundle, with the larger ends one way, and the smaller the other; the small end of one of the large nails was so bent, that it would have made a perfect circle, had not the very tip of that same nail been bent back again; this end was forked and very sharp, as were likewise the points of the compasses. None of the pieces were found polished, nor was the brass nor the lead anywise impaired or damaged; but the iron pieces were exceedingly corroded, especially one side of the knife, which had lain in the stomach about eight months, was eaten quite through in two or three places, towards the end of the blade, and three or four nails greatly corroded, as if some particular menstruum or dissolvent had been poured upon them; but all the other metals untouched; the lead had lain in the stomach eight months, and the brass pin about twelve. It was very easy to guess at the time these different pieces of iron had been in the stomach, by considering how much one piece had suffered more than the other. This observation seems to be inconsistent with the notion of those who believed that ostriches dissolve brass and iron by friction only; for if so, there is little reason why the iron legs of the compasses should have been found so very much worn out, and the brass parts not the least impaired. It was said by the surgeon who opened him, that the stomach had been no ways wounded or damaged; which does not appear at all probable, as the patient was known to have vomited and evacuated blood by stool, for six weeks before he died. It is to be wished the gullet and guts had likewise been opened; for it is plain, that some of the pieces had passed the pylorus, as the pegs of the knife, and perhaps some smaller pieces than those that were found in the stomach. This ideot, from his youth,

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PETER KENNING,  
*A well known Walking Preacher  
about the streets of London.*

*Published October 6. 1816 by R. S. Kirby at London House Ward, St Pauls.*

some of his favorites destroyed; and, as naturally might be supposed, he was very angry, and swore lustily at poor Peter. The latter mildly told his master how it happened, and said that swearing was very wrong, and he would not work another moment for him. Nothing would satisfy his mind against the hard words, and he immediately left the garden, and could never be persuaded to return.

At this time the soap trade a little revived, and he went back to his old master, where he now continues; but it should have been observed, that before he got employ in the garden, he used frequently to walk about preaching in the week days. In one of these excursions he strolled as far as Clerkenwell, where some ill-natured person took him before the magistrates for preaching. After receiving a lecture, and being desired not to do so again, he was about to be dismissed, but he told the magistrates that he certainly should preach again, and wherever he pleased. For his bluntness he unfortunately obtained a habitation in Bridewell for a month, but they took care he did not want, and considering him rather beside himself, they shortened his time, and he was sent home to his family.

Since this event he has seldom stopped to preach, except a few Sundays, when he went to the Seven Dials, and gathered a considerable concourse of people; there some other officious person in the Wesley interest, fearing this poor man might engross all, set up in opposition, and the circumstance of two preaching at the same time, soon attracted the notice of the officers of the parish, who broke up the congregations, so that now poor Peter's only method is to keep preaching as he walks along.



SOME ACCOUNT OF THE  
SEVEN ANCIENT WONDERS OF THE WORLD.

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THE WALLS OF BABYLON.

THE first ancient wonder of the world, was the Walls of Babylon, the capital of the ancient kingdom of Babylonia in Chaldea, said to be built by Queen Semiramis, mother of Ninus, and described by Justin Trogus Pompeius, Diodorus Siculus, and others; but St. Augustine and Josephus say they were built by Nimrod, who built the Tower of Babel. The city was surrounded like a quadrangle with walls eighty-seven feet in thickness, three hundred and fifty in height, and four hundred and eighty furlongs, or sixty English miles in compass, each side an exact square of 120 furlongs, or fifteen miles in length, built with lime and cement made into large bricks, which bound together like pitch or glue, and grew so solid by time, that six chariots might easily drive abreast on the top. This wall was encompassed with a vast ditch filled with water and lined with bricks on both sides; as the earth dug out made the bricks, we may judge the size by the height and thickness of the walls. There were 100 gates round the wall, 25 on each side, all of solid brass; between every two of these gates were three towers, and four more at the four corners of the great square, and three between each of these corners, and each of these towers was ten feet higher than the walls; in all there were 250 towers. Three hundred thousand men were employed daily. Added to this, ancient historians tell us of the hanging gardens, built in Babylon, upon arches and towers, wherein grew trees of great height; it was a square of 400 feet on each side, and consisted of terraces one above another, as high as the wall of the city; the ascent from terrace to terrace was by steps ten feet wide, and was strengthened by

a wall surrounding it on every side, twenty two feet thick; and the floors on each of them were laid in this order; first, on the tops of the arches, a bed or pavement of stones sixteen feet long, and four feet broad; over this a layer of reed mixed with the earth as described before, and over this two courses of brick, and over these thick sheets of lead, and on these the earth or mould, which was so deep as to give root to the largest trees: upon the uppermost of these terraces was a reservoir supplied by an engine with water from the river Euphrates. This vast city fell to decay soon after Cyrus removed the seat of his empire to Shushan.

*Time's Store-house, 1619.*



#### THE COLOSSUS OF RHODES.

The second wonder was the Colossus of Rhodes; it was the statue or figure of a man, dedicated to the Sun, or Jupiter; it was built of brass, 70 cubits in height, and was twelve years in building, and finished by Cares, a scholar of Lysippus. It stood only fifty-six years, being thrown down by an earthquake, and remained in that state till the year A. D. 672, in the time of Pope Martin the first. When the Saracens took possession of the Island, they sold the remains of the metal to a jew, who loaded nine hundred camels with it. It was built in such a manner as to stand astride the entrance into the harbour, that ships might sail between its legs, full fifty feet asunder; a staircase was built up the inside of it, and in the right hand, when held out, was a bason or dish to hold fire, as a land-mark, like our light-houses; the fingers on the hand were made so large, the stoutest man could scarcely clasp them round.

*Time's Store-house, 1619.*



#### THE PYRAMIDS OF EGYPT.

The third ancient wonder was the Pyramids of Egypt, three



of which stood between the city of Memphis, (now Cairo), and Delta. It is related by Pliny, and others, that the building of the largest of those to be here described, employed continually three hundred and three-score thousand men, for 20 years: that 1800 talents, or 1080,000 crowns, were paid for roots, garlic, and onions, to sustain the multitude of workers. The foundation, or ground work of this pyramid, Pliny says, and each quadrangle or square, contained 883 feet in breadth. Pomponius Mila says, the stones were of marble, brought out of Arabia, and most part of them were 30 feet in size. Peter Martyr, of Millaine, ambassador in 1501, declares the squares to be 315 paces each, and about 1300 in circuit. It took great time and trouble to reach the top, which was covered by one large stone, that 30 men might stand on it.

*Time's Store-house, 1619.*

Modern authors describe this pyramid to be 693 English feet square at the basis; and the height, as the pyramid ascends, inclining, is 693 feet, [the old cross of St. Paul's, London, before it was burnt, was 584 feet perpendicular,] which is exactly equal to the breadth of the basis, so that the angles and basis, make an equilateral triangle. The whole area thereof at the base contains 482,249 square feet, which is somewhat more than 11 acres of ground. On the outside of the pyramid there is an ascent by steps, which at the bottom, are four feet in height, and three in breadth, but the higher they go, they gradually diminish; being so contrived, that a strait line, stretched from any part of the basis to the top, would touch the edge of every step. The breadth and depth of every step is one entire stone, several of them 39 feet in length; and the number of steps is 207, according to Mr. Greaves. On the north side, sixteen steps from the bottom there is a square narrow passage, leading downwards into the body of the structure. This entrance is about three feet

square, and in length about 92 feet and a half. At the end of that is a wide place, about nine feet long, and an unequal breadth, supposed to have been dug for the discovery of some hidden treasure, but contains nothing but large bats. On the left hand there is another passage, five feet high, and 110 in length, through which is an ascent to two galleries, one of them running off horizontally, and the other rising upwards in the same direction with the passage. The horizontal gallery leads to an arched vault or chamber, about 17 feet long, and 15 broad, which smells like a grave, and is half full of rubbish. The walls are entire, and plastered over with lime; and the roof consists of large smooth stones, laid sloping, so as to meet at the top, in an angle. Near the entrance into the gallery, there is a circular well, three feet in diameter, which is lined with white marble, and little holes are left in the sides, opposite to one another, wherein a person that descends into it, must fix his hands and feet; which sort of contrivance is seen in many of the wells and cisterns of Egypt. The ascending gallery, whether we regard the materials or workmanship, is not inferior to the most magnificent buildings. It is paved and lined with white polished marble, cut in vast squares, and so curiously put together, that the joints are scarce discernible. The height of this gallery is 26 feet, its breadth six, and on each side of it, there are benches of polished stone. From thence opens a square hole, into some little chambers or closets, lined with marble, and then into a noble hall, situated in the centre of the pyramid, being equally distant from all the sides, but rather nearer the basis than the top. The floor, sides, and roof of this room, are all of Thebaic marble; and the stones are of a prodigious size, especially those that form the roof, lying across from one side to the other, like so many huge beams, and supporting an enormous weight. As to its dimensions, its length is 34 feet, its breadth 17, and its height near 20. In this stately

hull stands a tomb, placed exactly north and south, [It has been observed of this pyramid, that its sides stand exactly facing east, west, north, and south, and consequently mark the true meridian of the place; which precise position could not well have been owing to chance, but was, in all probability, the effect of art and design; and that it really was so, seems confirmed by the position of the tomb within, so that this ancient structure may be considered as a strong and lasting proof of the early progress of the Egyptians in the science of astronomy] and equally distant from all sides of the room, except the east, from whence it is as far again as from the west. It consists of one piece of marble, hollowed, without any lid or covering, and, on being struck, it sounds like a bell. The general opinion is, that it was designed for the tomb of Cheops or Chemmis, king of Egypt, the supposed founder of the pyramid.

This tomb is of the same marble with which the whole room is lined, viz. a sort that is streaked and variegated with black, red, and white spots, which some call Thebale, but others suppose to be a kind of porphyry. Its figure is like an altar, and the marble smooth and plain, without any sculpture, or other ornaments. The outward superficies are seven feet three inches and a half in length, and three feet four inches in depth, and much the same in breadth; but the cavity within, is little more than six feet long, two deep, and as many broad. From these dimensions, as well as from the embalmed bodies in Egypt, it has been justly observed by Mr. Greaves, and others, that there is not a decay in nature, but that the men of this age are of the same stature they were 3000 years ago. How this tomb was brought into the place where it now stands, is difficult to conceive, it being impossible it should come through the narrow passages above described, which makes it generally supposed to have been raised up thither from without, before the room was finished, and the roof closed up; but perhaps there is

some other way to the room within the structure, which has not yet been discovered.

Travellers take notice of a remarkable echo, or rather of a long continued sound, which is heard on discharging a musket, at the entrance into the first pyramid. This is mentioned by Plutarch; but, surprising as it is, the effect may be accounted for, as Mr. Greaves observes, by considering that the sound being shut in, and carried along smooth narrow passages, already described, to the middle of the pyramid, finding no way out, reflects upon itself, causing a circulation of the air, and a confused noise, which gradually lessens and dies away, as the motion ceases.

Denon differs very little from the above, in what he observed, in the year 1798.



THE MAUSOLEUM OF ARTEMISIA, AT CARIA, IN ASIATIC  
TURKEY.

The fourth ancient wonder, is the Mausoleum, built by Artemisia, wife of Mausolus, king of Caria; a province of greater Asia. Aulus Gellius says, she being so affected at her husband's death, she had this built to his memory. The stone of the whole structure, was of the most excellent marble, of 411 feet in circumference, and 25 cubits in height, it had 26 columns of fine stone; it was open on all sides, with arches of 73 feet wide; the part of the east was engraven by Scopas; the north by Briax; the south by Timotheus; and the west by Leochares; and to such a length was her love carried for her husband, it is said, she caused his bones to be beaten to powder, and drank them with her drink, that herself might be the sepulchre for his, not expecting to live till the Mausoleum could be finished, which was the case. Pliny, Pomponius Mela, Herodotus, and Strabo, also mention the same.



## THE TEMPLE OF DIANA.

The fifth ancient wonder, was the Temple of Diana, at Ephesus, a most magnificent building, 425 feet long, and 220 feet broad. It was adorned on the outsides, and insides, with 127 columns of the most exquisite marble, curiously carved, 60 feet in height, of which 36 had ornaments of basso relievo. Two hundred and twenty years were spent in building this wonderful temple. It was raised on marshy ground or lake, at a great expence; to secure it from earthquakes, the foundation was coal and wool. The name of the architect was Chersiphron. The beams and doors were cedar, the rest of the timber cyprus. A staircase made of the wood of Cyprus vines, led up to the temple. The form of it was oblong, and the length was twice its breadth. The most famous statues of this temple, were the workmanship of Praxiteles, and the paintings by Thraso. The temple of Diana was burnt by Herostratus, through no other motive, as he himself confessed upon the rack, than to immortalize his name. This remarkable transaction happened the very day on which Alexander the Great was born, in the year of the world 3648, and 356 before the birth of Christ.

Ephesus, that once celebrated city, 50 miles south of Smyrna, near the river Caistrus, is now a poor village, of 20 or 30 houses; it is in 38 degrees, three minutes east longitude. It was pleasantly situated near a fine haven, and under the Romans was the metropolis of Asia. It was anciently famous for the temple of Diana, esteemed one of the wonders of the world. St. Timothy was the first bishop of this city; and St. Paul honoured them with an excellent epistle, which is part of our canon; but the inhabitants are so exceedingly ignorant, that none of them are able to read it. The third General Council was held here. There are still the vestiges of a Roman Theatre, circus, aqueduct, and

heaps of stately ruins, which some suppose to be the remains of Diana's temple ; for there was a second temple, it seems, built to the honour of that goddess, after the destruction of the first, not at all inferior to the former in magnificence.

*Time's Store-house, 1696.*



#### JUPITER OLYMPUS.

The sixth ancient wonder was the gigantic statue of Jupiter Olympus. This statue was made by the famous sculptor, Phidias ; it was composed of ivory, gold, and precious stones, sitting upon a throne, equally marvellous. The height was above 60 ells. It was placed at the furthest end of the temple of Jupiter Olympus, at Achaia, between the cities of Elis and Pisa, called Olympus, the place where the Olympian games are kept, and the time of five years reckoned Olympiades.

*Time's Store-house, 1696.*



#### THE TOWER OF PHAROS.

The seventh ancient wonder was the Tower of Pharos, commenced by Ptolemy the Elder, and finished, some years after, by himself and his son Ptolemy Philadelphus, in the year of the world 3670, on the island of Pharos, which extended from E. to W. in a bay, about three leagues, forming the two ports of Alexandria : the port of Eunastus to the W. and the Great Port, as it was called, to the E. It was built on the east end of this island, upon a rock of white marble, of a large square structure, on the top of which fires were kept constantly burning, for the direction of mariners. It was a most magnificent tower, consisting of several stories and galleries, with a lantern at top, which could be seen many leagues at sea. It cost 800 talents ; if Attic talents, it amounts to 165,000*l.* sterling, and upwards ; if Alexandrian, to twice that sum. Sostratus of Cnidus was

the architect ; and, by the following stratagem, endeavoured to reap all the glory of raising such a wonderful structure to himself. He was ordered to engrave on it the following inscription : “ King Ptolemy to the gods, the saviours, for the benefit of sailors ;” but instead of Ptolemy's name, he cut out his own in the solid marble, and filling up the hollow of the letters with mortar, wrote upon it the above mentioned inscription. In process of time, the mortar with Ptolemy's name wore off, and the following appeared : “ Sostratus, the Cnidian, the son of Dexiphanes, to the gods, the saviours, for the benefit of Sailors.” This, as it was engraved on the solid marble, lasted as long as the tower itself. This wonderful work has been demolished some ages since ; and in its place stands a castle, called Farillon, where a garrison is kept to defend the harbour.

*Time's Store-house, 1696.*

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### EXTRAORDINARY SLEEPERS.

FROM THE HISTORY OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

M. de la Borderie, a doctor of physic at Toulouse, has written from Montargis to M. Winslow, an account of an extraordinary sleepiness of a woman of the parish of Saint Maurice sur Laurou. She is 27 years old, and was married two years ago to a man of 60 ; she lived with him free from any kind of indisposition to the 20th of July in that year, when she slept three days without waking, nor was it possible to wake her by any means. At last she awoke naturally, and presently asked for some bread, but fell asleep again whilst she was eating it, and this in about 5 or 6 minutes. This second sleep lasted 13 days, without her eating, drinking, or performing any manner of evacuations, except the *Catamenia*. When she waked it was much the same with her as before. She eat bread, satisfied some other natural

occasions, and fell asleep again, but this lasted only nine days. It was imagined her sleepy fits would have gone on increasing. In short during the rest of that year, her life was a continual and odd alternative of very long sleepings, and very short wakings. Her shortest sleeping was three days, and her longest thirteen. Her longest waking was half an hour, excepting twice, one of which was 3 hours, and the other 24 hours, the last after taking a vomit, and having been let blood in the arm and foot.

Her sleep was so sound, that Dr. de la Borderie could not get her out of it by heating her fingers till they were in a manner burnt. This sleep is extremely sweet and natural, without the least agitation or extraordinary heat; the perspiration very free, the pulse regular and strong, the complexion of the face not at all altered, but a gentle moisture upon it, as in the most perfect health, only it seems as if there were some gentle approach towards a catalepsy, for although in general her limbs have been free from stiffness, her arms, when Dr. de la Borderie lifted them up, seemed disposed to keep themselves a good while in that posture, and it was found necessary to bend them in order to get them down again. She has not lost any of her flesh. But since she took the vomit, she complains of a great pain in her stomach upon waking.

*Gent. Mag.* 1753, p. 521.



AN ACCOUNT OF A MOST REMARKABLE CATALEPSY,  
FROM THE HISTORY OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

Last year in the time of Lent, a lady about 45, came from Vesoul to Besançon, to solicit a law-suit, of the utmost consequence to her; wherein if she had miscarried she had been ruined. After a series of bitter misfortunes, harassed with the most vexatious inquietude, she was continually with those who had her affairs in hand, or in some church or other prostrate at an altar, to engage Heaven in her interest.



She slept little and eat less, either through loss of appetite, or to bestow the means of her subsistence in alms for her success.

She was very apprehensive, however, that the determination of the court would not be favourable to her ; and about five the evening before her cause was to come on, she fell into a kind of fit, which was taken for an apoplexy, and M. Attalin, professor of physic at Besançon, was sent for in all haste, who brought *Vacher*, chirurgien of the city hospital, along with him.

They found the lady on a settee, quite motionless, her eyes fixed upwards sparkling, the eye-lids open, her arms lifted up, and the hands joined, as tho' she had been in an ecstasy. Her countenance, which before was sad and wan, was now florid, gay and pleasant ; her respiration free and even, and the muscles of the abdomen seemed to act with ease ; her pulse was slow, soft, and pretty full, like that of a person in a sound sleep ; her limbs supple and flexible any way, without resistance, for the main characteristic of her disorder was, that they were too passive, never altering the position they were put in.

Upon pressing the chin downwards, the mouth opened and continued so ; if one arm was lifted up, and then the other, neither of them dropped down ; if they were turned backwards, and then raised upright, a posture that the stoutest man could not long have maintained, they remained so as long as they were suffered.

She was raised from her seat, that the like trial might be made on her legs ; and both legs and arms at once were put into postures seemingly difficult to support ; for it may be easily imagined, that not only a desire of the knowledge of so odd a case, but the curiosity natural on such occasions, would suggest many hints. The patient, like soft wax, retained the last attitude that was given her, and, which is most of all surprising, the body, though variously inclined,

always preserved its poise. It seemed as if this waxen statue was glued by the feet to a pedestal, to keep it from falling. She was to all appearance quite insensible; she was pinched, a chafing dish of coals was held under her feet, they hollowed in her ear, that she had gained her cause, but nothing was capable of exciting the least motion.

She was blooded in the foot, and then the company went to supper, but soon returned, and found her recovered from her fit, which had lasted between 3 and 4 hours. And now she as much astonished them with a long harangue, well connected and uttered, being chiefly a pathetic narrative of her misfortunes, and particularly of the progress of her law suit; the whole interspersed with moral reflections, and fervent prayers. They at first endeavoured, at the expence of truth, to give her some comfort, and then questioned her about the particulars of the fit.

She said she saw nothing, but heard by intervals, and could even distinguish, some persons by their voice. She could scarce believe she had been let blood, till she saw the ligature on her foot: the chafing dish, the effect of which one would have thought should have been very sensible, did not affect her in the least; and though she had been sufficiently shaken, tumbled about, and distorted, yet she felt no lassitude at all.

Whilst she was thus talked to, she would now and then drop her discourse, and fetch a gentle sigh, at which time her eyes were fixed and steady. Every precaution was used to prevent a second fit, and she cleared up again, and continued talking, yet she could not recover the thread of her story but began another, though she was reminded where she had left off; and this happened as often as the sighs and little threatening symptoms returned, the idea of what she was about to say absolutely vanishing, and a new one presenting itself. In about an hour the fit returned, the cataleptic symptoms were as strong if not stronger than before,

and when they were over, she sat down and spoke an hour and a half together, in the same tone and style as has been already described; but at last she ran into extravagancies, accompanied with terrible agonies, which ended in a violent frenzy. All the remedies these skilful gentlemen could think of, the three or four days she continued at Besançon, were ineffectual. She was sent home to Vesoul, having obtained a decree in her favour; and never once after relapsed, but continued to enjoy perfect health.

*Gent. Mag.* 1753, p. 566.

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AN EXTRAORDINARY SLEEPER AT NEWCASTLE.

In the year 1752, during the summer, the following particulars happened at Newcastle, in Staffordshire, related by a lady of discernment and veracity, who went to see the sleeper several times. She was a girl about 19 years of age; she slept 14 weeks, without waking, although several methods were tried to wake her, as bleeding, blistering, &c.; in all which time she took no sustenance, except about nine o'clock every night, she opened her mouth, and then some person that attended her, dipped a feather in wine, and with that wetted the inside of her mouth. Her father often gave her an airing in a horse chair, and sometimes took her several miles, to have the advice of the physicians; but neither the motion of travelling, nor any thing the physicians could do, could awake her; she appeared to be healthy all the time, breathed freely, and her pulse beat very regularly, but rather too slow; she never moved herself all the time, except once, it is thought, she moved one leg. When she awaked, it was very gradually, being two or three days from the time she began to stir and open her eyes, before she was quite awake, and then seemed to be very well, but complained of faintness. I heard, last summer, that she had then good health, and had no return of her sleepiness.

Derby, Dec. 20.

Gent. Mag. 1753, p. 567.

SLEEPER IN THE TOWER OF LONDON.

William Foxley, pot-maker for the Mint in the Tower of London, fell asleep on Tuesday, in Easter week, and could not be waked, with pinching or burning, till the first day of the next term, which was full 14 days; and when he was then awaked, he was found in all points, as if he had slept but one night. He lived 40 years after: this matter fell out in the 37th year of King Henry the Eighth's reign.

Baker's Chron. p. 428. *Stowe's Chron.* p. 591.
Wanley, &c.



AN ACCOUNT OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SLEEPER, AT ST.
GILIAN, NEAR MONS, IN HAINAULT.

BY DR. BRADY, PHYSICIAN TO PRINCE CHARLES OF LORRAIN.

This woman, whose name was Elizabeth Orian, was of a healthy robust constitution, and many years servant to the parish priest of St. Gilian, near Mons, in Hainault. In the beginning of the year 1738, when she was about 36 years of age, she became suddenly uneasy, sullen, and surly; and in the month of August, fell into a sound sleep, that lasted four days, notwithstanding all possible endeavours to awake her. At last, she awaked of herself, in a very bad humour, but went about her business for the next six or seven days, as usual, when she fell asleep again, and slept 18 hours; from that time till 1753, near 15 years, she continued to sleep every day, from about three in the morning till eight or nine at night, except about four months in the year 1745, when she had a natural sleep, and about 21 days in the year 1748, when she was kept awake by a tertian ague. On the 20th of February, 1755, about five in the evening, Dr. Brady went to see her, with the surgeon-major of an Austrian regiment; he felt her pulse, and found it

natural; he raised her arm, and found it heavy and rigid, so that he could not bend it without difficulty; he then raised her head, and her neck being as stiff as a board, her back and shoulders rose with it; her legs were in the same state; he put his mouth to her ear, and called as loud as he could, and, to be sure there was no cheat, he thrust a pin through her flesh to the bone; he kept the flame of burning paper to her cheek, till he burnt the scarf skin; he thrust a piece of linen, dipped in spirits of wine, up her nostril, and set it on fire for a moment; but, notwithstanding this injurious and cruel treatment, the poor creature continued to sleep. At half an hour after six, her neck, arms, and legs became more supple; about eight she turned in her bed, got up abruptly, and came to the fire; she soon after ate with an appetite, and then sat down to spin. She seems to have been frequently the subject of wanton cruelty, which is too often indulged, under the pretence of gratifying a laudable curiosity, and increasing useful knowledge. Before Brady's experiment with the pin, which he thrust through the flesh to the bone, &c, the flaming paper, with which he scorched her cheek, a surgeon had forced down her throat 18 grains of emetic tartar, which, if it had worked her, would probably have put an end to her life, four grains being a dose. She had been whipped, till the blood ran down her shoulders; her back had been rubbed with honey, and then exposed in a hot day before a hive of bees, when she was stung to such a degree, that her back and shoulders were covered with blotches and tumours; pins had been thrust under her nails, and she had suffered many other injuries, which *Brady* calls odd experiments, and says, he must pass them over in silence, on account of their indecency. If a repetition of these experiments did not destroy this unhappy wretch, it is probable that she remained in the same state; for it does not appear that any measures were taken to cure her, by any of those humane and inge-

nious persons, who gratified their curiosity by examining her case.

Gent. Mag. 1757, p. 363.

A LARGE DEER'S HORN,

FOUND IN THE HEART OF AN OAK.

BY SIR JOHN CLARK, ONE OF THE BARONS OF HIS MAJESTY'S EXCHEQUER IN SCOTLAND, AND F.R.S. IN THE YEAR 1739.

BEING lately in Cumberland, Sir J. C. there observed three curiosities in Winfield-park, belonging to the Earl of Thanet. The first was a huge oak, at least 60 feet high, and four in diameter, on which the last great thunder had made a very odd impression; for a piece was cut out of the tree, about 3 inches broad, and 2 inches thick, in a straight line from top to bottom. The second was, that in another tree of the same height, the thunder had cut out a piece of the same breadth and thickness, from top to bottom, in a spiral line, making three turns about the tree, and entering into the ground above 6 feet deep. The third was the horn of a large deer found in the heart of an oak, which was discovered on cutting down the tree. It was fixed in the timber with large iron cramps; it seems therefore, that it had at first been fastened on the outside of the tree, which in growing afterwards had inclosed the horn. In the same park, Sir John saw a tree 13 feet diameter, (for an account of others in the same park, see our *Museum* Vol. 2, page 230).

Remarks on the foregoing, by Dr. Mortimer.

This horn of a deer, found in the heart of an oak, and fastened with iron cramps, is one of the most remarkable instances of this kind, it being the largest extraneous body we have any where recorded, thus buried, as it were, in the wood of a tree. If J. Meyer, and J. Pet. Albrech, had seen

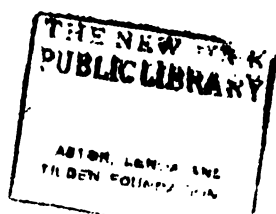
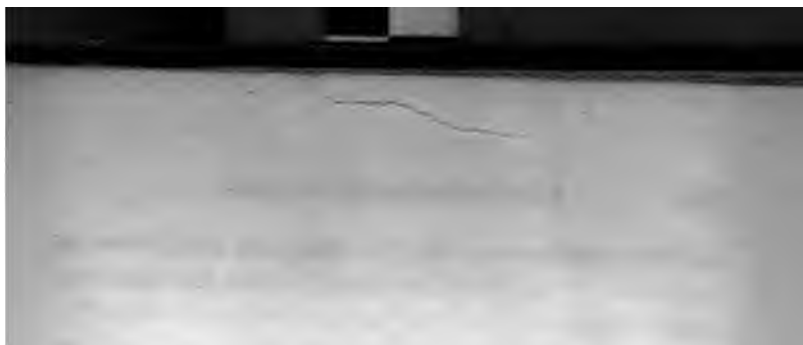
this, they could not have imagined the figures seen by them in beech trees to have been the sport of nature, but must have confessed them to have been the sport of an idle hand. To the same cause are to be ascribed those figures of crucifixes, Virgin Mary's, &c. found in the heart of trees; as, for example, the figure of a crucifix, which I saw at Maestricht, in the church of the White Nuns of the Order of St. Augustin, said to be found in the heart of a walnut tree, on its being split with lightning. And it being usual in some countries, to nail small images of our Saviour on the cross, of Virgin Mary's, &c. to trees by the road-side, in forests, and on commons; it would be no greater miracle to find any of these buried in the wood of a tree, than it was to find the deer's horn so lodged.

Sir Hans Sloane, in his noble museum, has a log of wood brought by Mr. Cunningham from an island in the East Indies, which, on being split, exhibited these words in Portuguese, DA BOA ORA. i. e. Det [Deus] bonam horam.

Phil. Trans. Clark, &c.

AN ACCOUNT OF
A GIGANTIC BOY,
AT WILLINGHAM, NEAR CAMBRIDGE,
BY THE REV. MR. ALMON, MINISTER, AND MR. T. DAWES,
SURGEON, AT HUNTINGDON.

WE gave a short account of this boy, in the first volume of our Museum, page 221, but have now inserted further particulars. Thomas Hall was the second child of Thomas and Margaret Hall, and born at Willingham near Cambridge, October the 31st, 1741. He grew wonderfully for three quarters of a year, having only the breast sustenance; when his mother suddenly died, and, as it is supposed, by his drawing away her vital nourishment.



youth in that condition, and was employed in tending flocks on the land which gave him birth.

Nature was particularly kind to Toussaint, by enduing him with uncommon talents; and the activity of his mind inspired him with the passion of improving those talents, during his leisure hours. Having taught himself to read and write, the knowledge he thus progressively attained, raised him highly in the estimation of his fellow-slaves, who were duly astonished to see one of their own humble condition, liberate himself from the profound ignorance which seemed to be their inevitable fate.

When Toussaint was able to read, he seems to have followed the wise man's precept, "Know thyself;" and having attained this self-knowledge, he consequently became a devout man, and a sincere disciple of Christ. His Christianity, however, was styled hypocrisy, by the hypocrites of the day, who, when in Italy, bowed to the Cross, and when in Egypt, professed their belief of the Koran. Our hero proved himself a Christian, by being a good husband, and a good father. Early in life, he joined himself to one woman, by whom he had several children, the objects of his tender affection. He was of the middle stature, had a fine eye, and his glances were rapid and penetrating.

Our hero was soon advanced from the occupation of a herdsman; the overseer of the estate, Bayon de Libertas, heard of his acquirements, and consequently resolved to take him into his personal service. By this gentleman, Toussaint was raised to a post of no small dignity in that country, though of no respectability in ours, "it being the situation of postillion, or coachman.

Although cruel to the slaves under his command, this overseer was extremely kind to Toussaint, who, by his good conduct, won the esteem and confidence of his new master; and having, by degrees, obtained the charge of a number

of slaves, he did all in his power to ameliorate their condition.

During the civil wars of the island, Toussaint wisely kept aloof from the intrigue and violence of the times; and even his bitterest defamers acknowledged that he had no share whatever in the horrid massacres of the white people, which those wars occasioned. During the first troubles, he remained quietly at home, in his master's service. He was no enemy, however, to the grand cause of general freedom, but gratitude and affection to the overseer, occasioned this inactivity. When the struggle between master and slave was over, Toussaint acquired considerable fame; his first endeavours being to protect the white people, who were, in their turn, the feeble and oppressed party, from the revenge of his brethren. The Whites, especially the planters, were so odious, both from their former tyranny, and the blood they had cruelly shed to preserve their power, that the negroes, when they had gained the ascendancy, were disposed to give them no quarter; and happy were those among them who could escape from the island, though it were to go with their families to a foreign country, without any means of subsistence. The overseer who had taken Toussaint into his service, was one of the unfortunate parties; who, not having escaped in good time, was on the point of falling into the hands of the enraged negroes, and would, in that event, certainly have been put to death; but his former kindness to Toussaint was not forgotten. Our hero, at the great risk of bringing the vengeance of the multitude on his own head, delivered his unhappy master, privately, out of their hands, and sent him on board a ship, bound for America, then lying in the harbour. Nor was this all; his brave and grateful deliverer, found means to put on board, secretly, for his use, a great many hogsheads of sugar, in order to support him in his exile. Thus M. Bayon was fortunate

enough to find, in a freed negro, a higher pitch of virtue than is often to be met with among the natives of Europe..

This celebrated man was not long in public life, before he became the chief leader of the blacks. In their wars with the planters, they had several other generals of their own colour; and some of great note, such as Biassou, Bouckmant, and Jean François. The fame of Toussaint, however, soon eclipsed theirs; for he had uncommon gifts, both of body and mind. Extremely sober by habit, his activity in the prosecution of his enterprises was incessant. He was an excellent horseman, and travelled, on occasion, with inconceivable rapidity, arriving frequently, at the end of his journey, often of 50 or 60 leagues, alone, or almost unattended, his followers being unable to keep up with him. He slept generally in his clothes, and gave very little time either to repose, or to his meals. He found time, however, for religious study, being always attended by priests. It was quite a proverb among the white inhabitants of St. Domingo, that Toussaint *never broke his word*. The greatest reliance was therefore placed on his promises, in the nicest cases, by even those to whom his falsehood would have been fatal. It is a notorious fact too, that the exiled French planters and merchants did not scruple to return from North America, on receiving his assurance of protection, and not one of them ever had occasion to repent of his confidence.

We shall here introduce a well authenticated anecdote, strongly illustrative of Toussaint's punctilious regard of his honour.

During the treaty of 1798, between this chief of the colony and General Maitland, by which the island was to be evacuated by the English troops, Toussaint came to see the British Commander in Chief at his head-quarters; and the General, wishing to settle some points personally with him, before his troops should embark, promised to return the

visit at Toussaint's camp in the country. So well was the character of this negro chief known, that the General did not scruple to go, with only two or three attendants, though it was a considerable distance from his own army, and he had to pass through a country full of negroes, who had lately been his mortal enemies. The Commissioners of the French Republic, however, did not think so well of the honour of this virtuous chief, having absolutely written a private letter to Toussaint, begging him, as he was a true republican, to seize this happy opportunity of making the British General a prisoner. General Maitland proceeded towards Toussaint's camp, and on the way received a letter from one of his friends, apprising him of the plot, and warning him not to put himself into the negro's power. As the good of His Majesty's service, however, required that confidence should, at this period, be placed in Toussaint, though even at some risk, General Maitland bravely determined to proceed.

When arrived at Toussaint's head-quarters the negro chief was not to be seen. General Maitland was desired to wait, and having stopped for some time without seeing Toussaint, his mind began to misgive him, as was natural upon a reception so seemingly uncivil, and so conformable to the warning he had received. Our hero at length entered the room with two letters open in his hand: "There, General," said this noble chief, "read these before we talk together: the one is a letter just received from Monsieur Roume, and the other, my answer. I would not come to you till I had written my answer to him, that you may see how safe you are with me, and how incapable I am of baseness." General Maitland read the letters, and found the one an artful attempt to excite Toussaint to seize his guest, as an act of duty to the Republic; the other, a noble, and indignant refusal, concluding with these words: "What! have I not passed my word to the British General? How then can you

suppose that I will cover myself with dishonour, by breaking it? His reliance on my good faith leads him to put himself in my power, and I should be for ever infamous, were I to act as you advise : I am faithfully devoted to the Republic, but I will not serve it at the expence of my conscience, and my honor."

It is no wonder that a man possessing such extraordinary virtues and talents, should win the hearts of his countrymen, and become their favorite leader. Their first famous chiefs were soon forgotten, and except Rigaud, leader in the South of the island, no general of the Blacks was talked of but Toussaint L'Ouverture. Rigaud was a brave and active mulatto, but not a man of principle, and was consequently obliged to yield to the superior merit of his rival,

On Toussaint's first attainment of power, the contest between the Blacks and their former owners had terminated, and the French Commissioners who then attempted to govern the island, acknowledged the freedom of the negroes, and promised to maintain it.

Another civil war however arose, which was carried on with great violence between the party of the dethroned French King, and that of the Convention. In this the negroes, as well as the whites, took different sides, and both parties were about equal in number. Toussaint, convinced that his countrymen were by no means indebted to the Convention for their liberty, was naturally on the same side with loyalty and religion, and by the aid of his courage and talents, the cause of royalty was triumphant in St. Domingo. For his great services in this war, he received from the King of Spain a commission as general in his army, and had the honour of being admitted a Knight of the ancient Military Orders of that country.

Circumstances however occurred, which rendered it impossible for Toussaint to refuse his adherence to the existing government of France. The cause of royalty having

failed in that country, little could be done to serve the Bourbon family by prolonging the miseries of civil war in a West-India island, while the great stake of negro liberty might be lost by further opposition to the republican party. He was therefore induced to give peace to those whom he had conquered, and to acknowledge the authority of the Convention. From this time he became a faithful servant of France, during every change in her government, though often molested and embarrassed in his plans for the public good, by the folly and wickedness of the persons in authority in the mother country. He proved an over-match for the various Commissioners sent by the French government to the island, in checking their rapacity, and rendering them, notwithstanding their abilities, mere cyphers: he protected the Planters from the Commissioners, and both from the natural jealousy of the negroes.

General Laveaux, then commander in chief for France, once owed his life to our hero, and publicly acknowledged the debt. The negroes of Cape Francois, suspecting this general of a plot against their freedom, rose up against him, threw him into prison, and were preparing to put him to death, when Toussaint, with a band of faithful followers, marched into the town, and delivered him out of their hands. General Laveaux was on this occasion so struck with the magnanimity of the negro chief, that he declared in a public letter, his resolution to take no measure in future in the government of the island, without that great man's advice and consent.

Toussaint took unwearied pains in promoting the agriculture of the island; for this purpose he encouraged the labourers, by giving them a third part of the crops for their wages; a large compensation in a country where sugar and coffee are the chief productions. He also made laws to restrain idleness, and obliged people to labour upon fair terms for their own livelihood; and to enforce these laws, he made

use of his power as a general, as he had no civil power to employ. He put the vagrant and the deserter upon the same footing, and they were equally liable to be punished after a fair trial by a court martial; but so mild were his punishments, (for he had no dungeons of confinement, nor sickly deserts of exile,) that the severest one for a labourer was the being obliged to enlist as a soldier.

Such an honourable character could by no means win the friendship of Bonaparte, then first consul of France; who, notwithstanding, sent him a treacherous letter by the hands of General Leclerc, professing the highest esteem for him, and complimenting his extraordinary talents. Toussaint had unfortunately sent his two beloved sons to France for their education, thus trusting them to French honor and gratitude! The fond father had anxiously recommended them to the care and protection of that government, particularly requesting that they might be brought up in religion.

When the short-lived peace with England (1801-2) had unchained the French navy, the subtle consul dispatched a fleet to St. Domingo, commanded by Admiral Villaret, with an army of at least 20,000 men under General Leclerc. To take these youths from their studies, and send them out to inveigle their father, was the project of Bonaparte; and he had fully resolved, that when he should have got the Chiefs of the free negroes in the West Indies in his power, either by force or fraud, they should not live to oppose his tyranny in future. To this end, he loudly professed for our hero and his negroes the utmost admiration, gratitude and esteem; wrote him letters full of praises and promises, and confirmed the commission of Commander in Chief, which he held under the former governments of France. While the unconscious Toussaint was working night and day for the good of France, by restoring with all his might the tillage of her richest colony, the French fleet and army were stealing over the sea to destroy him and his useful labours. They

at length arrived, and it might be supposed perhaps that the first step of General Leclerc was to send notice of his arrival to the lawful governor of the island, whom he was sent to succeed, and demand peaceable possession of the town and forts in which he meant to quarter his forces. No ; General Leclerc went to work exactly like an invading enemy in time of war, though he had the modesty afterwards to complain, that he was not received as a friend. The moment he saw the coast of St. Domingo, he broke his force in three divisions, which fell like a sky-rocket, as nearly as possible at the same time, on the three principal towns of the island. Nothing could be better contrived.

At Fort Dauphin, where General Rochambeau arrived with the first division of the army before the two others could get round to their points of attack, the troops were instantly landed. No summons was sent to give the poor wandering colonists a chance of saving their lives by submission. The troops were drawn up in battle array on the beach. The Negroes ran down in crowds to behold so strange a sight, and before they had any notice of what was designed against them, they were charged with the bayonet, and routed, with the loss of many innocent lives.

While by such means possession was obtained of Fort Dauphin, the main body of the fleet and army under Villaret and Leclerc, were hastening round to the Cape. They arrived the next day, and instantly prepared to land and take possession of Cape François ; but *Christophe*, the black general, who commanded at this important post, having heard, no doubt, of the massacre at Fort Dauphin, bravely and loyally refused to suffer them to enter the harbour until he should receive orders from Toussaint.

The French however resolved to profit by Toussaint's absence, and therefore landed the troops by force, under cover of the ships, at the expence not only of many lives, but of the destruction of the town ; for *Christophe*, finding

they persisted in forcing a landing without giving him time to send to his commander in chief, immediately set fire to the place, as he had repeatedly warned the invaders.

During this invasion, which occupied about 48 hours, Toussaint was in an inland part, at too great a distance from the coast to give any timely assistance or orders at either of the points of attack. In order to decoy this hero, Colson, the tutor of his sons, was immediately sent to him with the boys, from the smoking ruins of Cape François. The elder son was about 17; the younger 15; they both had been separated seven or eight years from their affectionate parents, and were now much improved, not only in stature, but every other point of appearance that could rejoice the eye of a father. Ignorant as the poor lads were of public affairs, they had been taught that it was for their father's good to comply with the wishes of the Chief Consul; and Bonaparte himself had talked with and caressed them at Paris, in order to impress that opinion on their minds.

With these innocent decoys in his train, and with letters both from General Leclerc and the Consul, full of the most high-flown compliments to Toussaint, and the most tempting offers of honours, wealth, and power, Colson proceeded to the place of our hero's usual abode. His cruel orders were, to let the boys see and embrace their father and mother, but not to let them remain: if the father should agree to sell himself, and betray the cause of freedom, he was to be required to come to the Cape to receive the commands of Leclerc, and become his lieutenant-general; but if he should be found proof against corruption and deceit, the boys were to be torn from his arms, and brought back again as hostages. If nothing else could move him, the fears and agonies of a parent's breast might, it was hoped, be effectual to bend his stubborn virtue.

On their arrival, the father was not at home, his urgent public duties having called him to a distant part of the

island, where he was probably endeavouring to collect his scattered troops, and to make a stand against the invaders. The mother, however, the faithful wife of Toussaint, was there; and caught her dear long absent children to her bosom. It was no hard task for the envoy to delude this tender parent. He professed to her, as he had declared to all the negroes he met with on his journey, *that the Consul had no design whatever against their freedom, but wished only for peace, and a due submission to the authority of the Republic.* The fond mother was ready to believe all he said. She ardently wished that it might be true, and that her beloved husband, with his superior knowledge and judgment, might see cause to confide in these pleasing assurances. She instantly sent off an express to him, to let him know that a messenger from the Consul was come, with the offer of peace, liberty, and their children.

Toussaint was so far distant, that with all his wonderful speed in riding, he did not arrive at Ennery (that was the place of this interesting home) till the following night. Ah! what pangs of suspense, what successions of hope and fear, must have wrung the heart of the poor mother in the interval! But her beloved husband at last arrived, and rushed into the arms of his children.—For awhile the hero forgot that he was any thing but a father. He pressed first the elder boy, then the younger to his heart, then locked them both in a long embrace. Next he stepped back for a moment to gaze on their features and their persons. Isaac, the elder, was so much grown, that he was almost as tall as his father; his face began to wear a manly air, and Toussaint recalled in him the same image that sometimes met his youthful eyes when he bathed in the clear lake among the mountains. The younger was not so near to manhood, but his softer features were not less endearing. The father saw again the playful trichin that used to climb upon his knees, and the very expression that won his heart in the object of

his first affection. Again he caught both the youths to his bosom, and his tears dropped fast upon their cheeks.

When the paternal embrace were over, Toussaint stretched out his arms to the tutor ; but the cold-blooded Coisson, retiring from the embrace, assailed him in a set speech, with persuasions to submit to the Consul, and to betray the cause of freedom. This eloquent tutor promised the negro chief, respect, honors, fortune, and even the office of Lieutenant General of the Island, if he would come to the Cape, and bring over his troops to join the French standard ; and in case of non-compliance he was threatened with vengeance, and the loss of his beloved sons. " You must submit," said Coisson, " or my orders are to carry my pupils back to the Cape. You will not, I know, cover yourself with infamy, by breaking faith and violating a safe conduct. Behold, then, the tears of your wife ; and consider, that upon your decision depends whether the boys shall remain to gladden her heart and yours, or be torn from you both for ever." The orator concluded by putting into the hero's hands the letters of the Captain-general and the Consul.

Isaac next addressed his afflicted father, in a speech which his tutor had assisted him in preparing. He related how kindly he was received by the Consul, and what high esteem and regard that chief of the republic professed for Toussaint L'Ouverture and his family. The younger brother added something which he had been taught, to the same effect ; and both, with artless eloquence of their own, tried to win their father to a purpose, of the true nature and consequence of which they had no suspicion.

During these heart-rending assaults on the virtue and firmness of Toussaint, the hero, checking his tears, and eyeing his children with glances of agonized emotion, maintained a profound silence. " Harken to your children," cried Coisson ; " confide in their innocence ; they will tell you nothing but truth."

Again the tears of their mother and her boys, and their sobbing entreaties, poured anguish into the hero's bosom. He still remained silent. The conflict of passions and principles within him might have been seen in his expressive features, and in his eager glistening eye. But his tongue did not attempt to give utterance to feelings for which language was too weak.

The artful Coisson saw the struggle; he eyed it with a hell-born pleasure, and was ready in his heart to cry out "victory," when the illustrious African suddenly composed his agitated visage, gently disengaged himself from the grasp of his wife and children, took the envoy into an inner chamber, and gave him a dignified refusal. "Take back my children," said he, "since it must be so. I will be faithful to my brethren and my God."

Coisson, finding he could not carry his point, wished at least to draw our hero into a negotiation with General Leclerc; and Toussaint, always humane and fond of peace, was willing to treat upon any terms by which "*the horrible fate*," as he himself truly called it, which was intended for his brethren, might be avoided without the miseries of war. He, therefore, readily agreed to send an answer to the captain-general's letter, but would not prolong the painful family scene by staying to write it at Ennery, or again seeing his boys. It was two in the morning when he arrived there, and at four he mounted his horse again, and set off at full speed for his camp.

On the next day our hero dispatched a Frenchman of the name of Granville, who was the tutor to his younger children, with a letter for the Captain-general; and this man overtook his brother-tutor and the two poor hostage-youths on their way to the Cape. This letter was of such a nature that it produced a reply from General Leclerc, and a further correspondence took place between these opposite leaders

during several days, a truce being allowed for the purpose, which Leclerc expected would have ended in a peace.

The treaty at length broke off, and war was most furiously renewed against Toussaint and his adherents in every quarter of the island. Leclerc with success, assailed the fidelity of the soldiers, and of the black generals and officers who had commands under Toussaint. So powerfully did the dreadful scourge of war, inflicted on all points of the colony at once by France, second the treacherous promises of Leclerc, that such of the negro troops as still adhered to Toussaint, began to be weary of the contest, and every day, almost, some leading man among them went over to the enemy.

The French general had published an order, restoring to the planters all their former power over the negroes belonging to their estates. This inflamed the negroes who had been so lately delivered from the "horrible yoke," and Toussaint saw at once his means of victory in this imprudent wickedness of his enemies. Instead of continuing his flight among the mountains, he turned short towards the north coast of the island, where a very extensive and fertile plain surrounds Cape François, and where there was, in consequence, the greatest number of cultivators. He summoned them to arms, and they were not now, as before, deaf to his voice. They rose in a mass around him, hailing him as their deliverer and guardian angel. These new troops were badly armed, or rather for the most part, not armed at all, except with hoes, and a kind of cutlass, which is used in the West Indies for trimming the green fences. But their numbers and zeal enabled their brave leader to surmount all difficulties. He poured like a torrent over the whole plain of the north, every where seizing the French posts, and driving their divisions before him, till they found refuge within the fortifications of Cape François.

Toussaint had no battering artillery; yet he surrounded the town, made several sharp attacks upon it up to the very mouths of the cannon, and would certainly have taken the place, had not the fleet been lying in the harbour. The French were obliged to land the marines, and 1200 seamen from the fleet, to raise new batteries, and to haul the ships close in shore, where their broadsides might play upon the besiegers. Yet, after all, the place must have yielded to the intrepid Toussaint and his husbandmen, if General Hardy, with a grand division of the French army from the south, had not advanced by forced marches, and thrown himself into the town. The Captain-general himself was obliged to follow by sea, quitting all his conquests in the south, after having marched back all his victorious detachments, from the interior to the coast.

It is truly wonderful to consider, in how short a time these great reverses were effected. About the middle of March, the French were at the summit of their successes and confidence; yet by the 9th of April, they were reduced to such extremity, that Leclerc, besieged at the Cape, and hardly able to maintain himself there, was upon the point of retreating by sea, to the Spanish part of the island.

The French general perceiving his error, framed a cunning proclamation, dated April 25, which was sent into the camp of the negroes, and to every part of the island. This deceitful production had the desired effect, and early in the month of May, a peace was concluded with our hero, and all the generals and troops under his command.

Toussaint had retired to his peaceful family mansion at Gonaives, which is on the south-west coast of St. Domingo, at a little distance from St. Marks. He had there a little estate, which was called by his own surname, L'Ouverture, and where he probably hoped long to enjoy that domestic peace, to which he had been ten years a stranger. The two promising youths, who had been under the tuition

of Coisson, were, it is said, murdered, which had left a melancholy blank in the family circle.

On a sudden, at midnight, the Creole frigate, supported by the Hero, a 74 gun ship, both dispatched on purpose by Leclerc from the Cape, stood in towards the Calm Beach, near Gonaives. Boats, with troops, immediately after landed, and surrounded the house of Toussaint, while he was at rest with the faithful companion of all his cares and dangers. Brunet, a brigadier-general, and Ferrari, aid-de-camp to Leclerc, who have been both praised in the *Moniteur* for this honourable service, entered the chamber of the hero, with a file of grenadiers, and demanded of him to go, with all his family, on board the frigate.

The lion was in the toils, and assistance was hopeless, but Toussaint was still himself; still dignified, generous, and feeling. He submitted, as far as concerned his own fate, without gratifying his base enemies by a murmur; but, alive to the fears and dangers of his wife and children, he requested that they might be left at home, and would have made that the condition of his own compliance. This condition, however, his ruthless oppressors would not grant; for the destruction of all who were dearest to Toussaint, was part of their perfidious purpose. An irresistible military force appeared, and the whole family, including the niece of a deceased brother, were carried on board the frigate, and and from thence embarked in the Hero, which proceeded with them immediately to France.

Our hero's character was at this period vilely stigmatised by the first consul, who employed a lying author, Dubroca, to charge him with MURDER and HYPOCRISY, and whose erroneous history, entitled, the "Life of Toussaint L'Ouverture, Chief of the French Rebels in St. Domingo," has, to the disgrace of our language, been translated into English. Justice is, however, due to a man of Toussaint's honour and integrity, whose family were unjustly made prisoners; and yet

two children only arrived, with their mother, in France, the rest having been previously drowned, or otherwise disposed of. Toussaint was not only refused the comfort of conversing with his family on the passage, but was treated with the utmost rigour, having been constantly confined in his cabin, and there guarded by soldiers, with fixed bayonets. No sooner had he arrived in the harbour of Brest, than he was hurried on shore, cruelly torn from his beloved family, and forced to bid them a last adieu. They were detained prisoners on ship-board, while he was conveyed to a solitary cell, in the distant castle of Joux, in the neighbourhood of Mount Gaesa.

This deed was managed by the consul with such profound secrecy, that the place of his confinement was, for some time, a matter of guess in France. The afflicted wife, two children, a niece, and the servants of Toussaint, were not imprisoned with less closeness than himself; they were removed to Bayonne; but the fate of this interesting family has been carefully concealed. Toussaint, as supposed, was poisoned; and, from the character of their oppressor, the reader may easily anticipate the death of the rest.

TOADS HATCHED BY DUCKS.

The following was taken from the Wakefield Star.

EARLY in July 1807, a most extraordinary phenomenon was observed by several people of credit, at the house of Mr. Rhodes, in Thornes-lane, near Wakefield. A hen had been sitting on ducks' eggs, several of which had produced ducklings: on examining one egg, a small hole was found in one end of the shell, through which a toad was discovered, not alive, which filled the whole shell, and seemed, upon breaking it, to be absolutely straitened for want of

room. Except the small hole, such as is usually found in an egg, when the animal within is mature for hatching, the shell was perfectly whole, so as utterly to preclude the supposition of the toad's having crept in through the hole. We have ourselves seen the toad, and with a small part of the shell still adhering to it. This singular circumstance reminds us of an account, which we inserted in our paper, about a year ago from the Northampton Mercury, of several persons, who were poisoned at a village near Grantham, from eating eggs laid by ducks, which had previously been observed to have had connection with some toads in a pond.

A WONDERFUL

PRESERVATION OF A PIG,

BURIED IN THE EARTH UPWARDS OF FIVE MONTHS.

MAY 30, 1811. The workmen, on removing the rubbish of part of the cliff, near Dover Castle, that fell down a few months before, by which a mother and her children were killed, and their bodies found the next day, discovered a hog that was buried in the ruins at the same time, and was supposed to have perished; but, strange as it may appear, he was found alive, making it exactly five months and nine days since the accident. At that time the animal weighed about seven score; when he was found, he was wasted to about 30 pounds; but is still likely to do well.

Nat. Reg. June 2, 1811.

ILL USAGE OF A SUPPOSED WITCH.

A NUMBER of people surrounded the house of John Pritchers, of West Langdon, in Kent, November 29, 1762, un-

her pretence of his wife having bewitched a boy, named Ladd, about 13 years old, he having pretended to void needles and pins from his body, and his father had upheld the deceit, and had collected large sums of money of the credulous. They forced this woman from her house, to Ladd's, which was nearly a mile distance, and by violence dragged her to the room where the boy was, scratched her arms and face in a most cruel manner, to draw blood; as they said, of the witch, and then threatened to swim her; but some humane persons interfered, and saved the poor woman's life; and the persons carrying on this imposture, particularly one Beard, and Ladd's wife, were taken before a magistrate, and compelled to give satisfaction to the woman: the mob then dispersed, as the country was quite in a tumult.

Annual Register, 1762, p. 103.

EXTRAORDINARY ACCIDENT.

On the 13th of June 1812, Mr. Tipple drove the single-horse chaise of his friend, J. Overton, Esq. to the Forest-gate, West Ham, where he arrived about nine o'clock in the evening. He then proceeded to unharness the horse from the chaise, incautiously placing himself between the off shaft and an angle of the chaise-house, at which instant the horse moved towards the stable-door opposite, and the shaft of the chaise struck Mr. Tipple under the left arm, and the horse continuing to advance, the shaft was forced through his body. It came out immediately under his right arm, and entered the chaise-house about six inches, passing through an exterior feather-edged board, and carrying away the interior lining. In this situation, Mr. Tipple remained two or three minutes, pinioned to the chaise-house, till his cries attracted the attention of two gentlemen, one of whom seized

the horse by the nose, backed him, and with care and promptitude drew the shaft from the body, which it had entered, from the end to the first tug, 21 inches. Mr. Tipple then walked into the house, and up two pair of stairs, into his chamber. Medical assistance was procured in eight minutes, and he was bled. Sir William Blizard was with him, and in somewhat less than two hours after the accident, recommended it to Mr. Tipple to settle his affairs, and gave it as his opinion to the friends of Mr. Tipple, that it was impossible for him to survive. Contrary, however, to all expectation and experience, Mr. Tipple, through the unremitting assistance of Sir William Blizard, and the judicious means resorted to, in the first instance, by Dr. Maddens, did, within the space of four weeks from the time of the accident, so far recover as to be able to walk about.

Bristol Mirror.

A RAT CAUGHT BY AN OYSTER.

Mr. James Wrigley, master of the Golden Lion inn, at Liverpool, going into his cellar, October 26, 1759, having some oysters there, a large Norway rat, endeavouring to seize an oyster that was open, it closed, and held him so fast, that he was carried into the kitchen, and exhibited to some hundred persons, while alive.

Annual Register, 1759, p. 123.

A PARTRIDGE WITH TWO NECKS.

LUSUS NATURÆ.

A PARTRIDGE of an extraordinary description was shot on Monday, September 1, 1806, by Samuel Smith, Esq. in the

vicinity of Rickmansworth; it had two necks, branching from the body in the form of a letter V, both of which were, in every respect, complete; the eyes in either head appeared to have been equally perfect, though they were somewhat disfigured by the shot; and it was supposed the creature used both bills to feed, although that on the left side was evidently most rubbed. It was a young bird, fat, and in fine feather. Mr. Smith was induced to think there were other curiously-formed birds in the same covey, and ordered his game-keeper to endeavour to take them alive; but he failed.

FLYING FISH.

EXTRAORDINARY PHENOMENON.

SOMETIME about the 22d of September 1810, Mr. Elisha Wall and his family, consisting of his wife and three grown children, besides several small ones, at his plantation, on Cypress Creek, about 12 miles from Coosawatchie-bridge, in South Carolina, saw passing over his yard, considerably below the height of the trees, on Sunday, directly after dinner, a prodigious quantity of *narrow-headed cat-fish*, of two sizes, the lesser quantity about two feet long, and the greater about one foot. The largest fish were as walls of defence, on either side of the small ones, about three yards in breadth, and three tiers deep—they were well arranged, in a small distance from each other, so as each to have room to use their fins and tails, without interfering with each other—they were nearly one hour moving slowly from east to west—they had all the motions of real living fish in their natural element, though there was neither cloud nor wind to support their movements. It is said that several thousands must have passed during the time they were viewed. Mr. Wall is an honest man, of truth, sobriety, and industry, whose word

in any case, will not be disputed by those who know him— there were also at his house, at the time, five indifferent persons, who also saw this great phenomenon, and are willing, if necessary, to make oath to the fact herein stated.

American Papers.

ENGLISH HEROISM.

WHEN the gallant Earl Howe added fresh laurels to the British flag, on the glorious 1st of June 1794, a seaman, named Appleford, greatly distinguished the characteristic bravery of English tars.


The Marlborough, the ship to which he belonged, by intrepidly breaking the enemy's line, became totally dismasted, and in that situation, dropped with her stern on the bows of a French 84, whose bowsprit came over the Marlborough's poop. The Frenchmen were preparing to board, though with apparent reluctance, when Appleford, to be before-hand with them, mounted their bowsprit, and with his cutlass boldly leaped upon their forecastle, which he not only took possession of, but forced his adversaries to fly for safety into the waist of the ship; a French officer, observing the uncommon behaviour of our hero, rushed from the quarter-deck, to reproach so many of his men for cowardly running from one, and to convince them of his own honour, instantly commenced an attack upon Appleford, who was fortunate enough to conquer his antagonist. His situation by this time becoming extremely dangerous, he thought it best to effect his retreat, as he was not at that time assisted on the spot by any of his countrymen; with this intention, he again mounted the bowsprit, and by courageously springing off the end, he reached the poop deck of his own ship at the moment when they were drifting from each other. At this period horror, smoke, and carnage

were general, but victory hovered over the British fleet, while the French were running away at all points of the compass ; unfortunately for the Marlborough, the valour of her crew had placed her so close to the disabled ships of the enemy, that amidst the confusion of the battle, she was taken by several English ships to be a Frenchman, more particularly so, as the whole of her colours had been shot away, but one white ensign, which was then hoisted. This circumstance occasioned much destruction on board, from the fire of those ships who fell into the mistake ; nor was the error discovered, until she was reduced to a shattered hulk. Several of the Frenchmen that had left the main body of their fugitive fleet, formed an order of sailing to the windward, and were bearing down in such a direction as to pass under the Marlborough's stern, the headmost of which, by a shot, carried away the British ensign ; by this circumstance, the honour of Old England, for a moment, appeared to suffer, from the impossibility of replacing the colours, every flag having been shot away ; consequently it seemed as if they had struck to the Frenchmen, an idea which operated so strongly on the mind of the undaunted Appleford, that he loudly exclaimed, " The English colours shall never be dous'd where I am ! " then casting his eyes round the deck, he perceived the dead body of a marine, who had been shot through the head, he instantly seized him, and stripping his red coat off, stuck it on a boarding pike, and exalted it in the air, swearing that Englishmen would not desert their colours, and that when all the red coats were gone, they would hoist blue jackets. The singularity of such conduct infused into the hardy sons of Neptune, that valour and heroism with which they fought to the glorious period when victory ended their animated struggle.

British Press, January 19, 1803.

SOME ACCOUNT OF
DANIEL CUERTON.

THIS man was remarkable for his strength; he died in the year 1803, aged fifty-four. He was born in Old-street, St. Luke's, and was by trade a ladies' shoemaker; for sixteen years he kept an old iron shop in James-street, near Grosvenor-square; after that he lived in John-street, Goodge-street, Tottenham-court Road, where he died; he was a freemason, and belonged to the Lodge, No. 8, held at the King's Arms coffee-house, Lower Brook-street. This man had the power, peculiar to himself, of widening or swelling his chest to so prodigious a size, that the largest man's coat would not fit him; he also had the way of reducing himself as easy, so that he could put on a boy's coat of fourteen years of age; he was about five feet six inches high, and rather lusty, but very active; he would put his hands under his arm pits, and, in this way, take up a glass or pot with his elbows, and drink whatever quantity he pleased; with his hands in that position he would also hammer a quart or pint pot together with his elbows, equal to their being flattened with a hammer, if any one would undertake to pay for the pot. With his hands bound behind him, he would without any aid, raise a large mahogany table, with his teeth, that would dine a dozen people, balance it steadily, or raise it to the ceiling if desired. The habit of exhibiting these extraordinary feats, brought on such a custom of frequenting public-houses, that he became reduced in circumstances, and he died almost in want. (The Society of Freemasons had given him up some time before his death.)



DEW LIKE BUTTER.

MR. ROBERT VANS, of Kilkenny, in Ireland, in a letter dated November 15th, 1695, to Mr. Henry Million, describes an extraordinary substance falling from the air like butter. "We have had of late, in the county of Limerick and Tipperary, showers of a matter, like butter or grease. If this be rubbed on one's hand, it will melt, but laid by the fire, it dries and grows hard, having a very stinking smell. This last night some fell at this place, which I saw this morning. It is gathered into pots and other vessels, by some of the inhabitants of this place."

In another letter from the Bishop of Cloyne, near Youghall, dated April 2d, 1696, on the same butter-like substance, he says, "having very diligently inquired concerning a very odd phenomenon, which was observed in many parts of Munster and Leinster, the best account I can collect of it is as follows; for a good part of last winter and spring, there fell in several places, a kind of thick dew, which the country people called butter, from the consistency and colour of it, being soft, clammy, and a dark yellow; it fell always in the night, and chiefly in moorish low grounds, on the top of the grass, and often on the thatch of the cabins. It was seldom observed in the same place twice: it commonly lay on the earth for near a fortnight, without changing its colour; but then dried and turned black. Cattle fed in the fields where it lay, indifferently, and in other fields. It fell in lumps, often as large as the end of one's finger, very thin and scatteringly. It had a strong ill scent, somewhat like the smell of church-yards or graves; and indeed we had during most of that season very stinking fogs, some sediment of which might possibly occasion this stinking dew, though I

will by no means pretend to offer that as a reason of it: I cannot find that it was kept long, or that it bred any worms or insects; yet the superstitious country people, who had scald or sore heads, rubbed them with this substance, and said it healed them.

Phil. Trans. Vol. 19, p. 220.



HONEY DEW.

A dew of honey fell in the neighbourhood of Rathiermac in Ireland, July 9, 1762, which loaded the trees and long grass in such a manner, that quantities of it were saved by scoops.

Annual Register, 1762, p. 98.



ACCURATE SKETCH OF THE MONSTROUS NON-DESCRIBT, JUSTLY CALLED THE WONDER OF THE DEEP;

TAKEN BY ENGLISH FISHERMEN, ON THE COAST OF DORSET-
SHIRE, ON THE 4TH OF MAY, 1801;

AND EXHIBITED AT THE PANTHEON, OXFORD-STREET, 1803.

THIS enormous fish having hitherto escaped the notice of all the Naturalists who have written on the subject, has necessarily become the cause of enquiry and admiration among the curious and well-informed of all descriptions; and as it is evidently no species of the whale, our researches into its nature and qualities become more and more interesting. Thus, its magnitude in its first appearance is uncommonly striking; besides being 28 feet in length, and near 20 feet in girth, its petural fins, or shoulders, are two feet wide, or equal to a man's grasp with both arms, and are about five feet long, tapering towards the end—but that which

adds to the appearance of its bulk, is the uncommon height of the dorsal, or back fin, as this measured a perpendicular of five feet, tapering towards the top from a base of about three feet wide. The upper part of the head and the eyes, in proportion to the enormous width of mouth, forms a most singular contrast, as the latter, though without any jaw bone, contains 4000 teeth, arranged in nine rows placed at the extreme rein of the mouth, and turning inwards like a curve. Its eyes appear very near the extremity of the nose, and its nostrils are directly under them. The snout, with which it seems to have sought its food, bears some small resemblance to that of a hog—And exclusive of two lower fins, the under part of this extraordinary inhabitant of the deep, is supported by two feet placed nearly in the center of its body, consisting of solid flesh, about five feet long, the divisions of each extremity being also provided with a fang or claw, not unlike the tusk of a boar, and strong webbed between—as to appearance, the legs are much stronger than the hinder part of an ox. It should have been observed, that his two fins, viz. one on each side, grow near his body on each side of these limbs or feet. His tail from point to point was 8 feet; but the hindermost, or lower orifice, unlike the mouth, is remarkably small. A part of his gills, which are preserved, appear like a brown comb; and previous to wet or dark weather, become very pliable, and of a black colour—and what is the most surprising, in all this cumbrous and unwieldy body, there is but one bone, viz. that of the vertebræ or back, which runs from the nose to the uppermost extremity of the tail. This animal is supposed to have fed upon sea-weeds, as nearly five pails full of them, and them only, were found in the carcass, when it was first opened.—Its liver only, produced four hogsheads of oil; and hence its excessive weight, added to the vigour of its dying exertions, after having received seventeen balls from the Greyhound Cutter, rendered it necessary for the

fishermen, who vainly endeavoured to drag it on shore, to obtain the assistance of seven horses and several men ; and for many hours before it expired on the sea-beach near Abbotsbury, in Dorsetshire, it justly lay as an object of surprise and astonishment to all the beholders ; and it has since attracted the notice of several considerable and respectable personages. Another circumstance which conveys an additional idea of the magnitude of this enormous carcass, is, that a hole being made in the bottom, near the hind legs, of the skin, large enough to admit a man or woman, who can nearly walk upright in it, several persons have positively entered the body this way, and come out again through the aperture of the mouth.

**SURPRISING INSTANCE OF THE QUICKNESS OF
VEGETATION IN COLD CLIMATES ;**

THE FOLLOWING BEING A CALENDAR OF A SHIRIAN OR
LAPLAND YEAR.

Snow melts	June 22
Snow gone	July 1
Fields quite green	— 9
Plants at full growth	— 17
Plants in flower	— 25
Fruits ripe	August 2
Plants shed their seed	— 10
Snow	— 18

From August 18, to June 22, snow and ice.

Thus it appears, that from their first emerging from the ground to the ripening of their seeds, the plants take but a month ; and Spring, Summer and Autumn, are crowded into the short space of 56 days.



Astonishing Instance of the Cruelty and Neglect of Country Parish Officers, at Datchworth, in Hertfordshire, in the account of Four Persons there,

STARVED TO DEATH,

In the month of January, 1769.

BY PHILIP THICKNESSE, ONE OF THE JURYMEN ON THE BODIES.

MR. THICKNESSE, after remarking that the poor are no where more hardly dealt with than in extensive, but obscure parishes, where scarcely any gentlemen reside, and where a few upstart necessitous persons most shamefully apply the money raised, proceeds as follows :

On the 23d of January, 1769, a day-labourer, who lately lived in a poor-house belonging to this parish, told me, that four or five persons were found dead in a poor-house on the green, and that they perished for want of food, raiment, attendance, and a habitable dwelling. Unable and unwilling to believe it, I set out with an intention to examine into the truth of so alarming a report ; a report which the extreme severity of the weather alone induced me to give any credit to. However, I immediately went to the place, where I found a small hut, consisting of one room, without floor or ceiling, fourteen feet long and twelve broad, unthatched in some places, a window frame without any glass at one end, and on the opposite side a large hole in the plastering, through which I could have got, and in at which I looked. There I beheld the four dead bodies, emaciated beyond any conception, lying on a very small quantity of dirty peas-straw, spread on the bare earth. The man had on a piece of a shirt, the woman was quite naked, as were the children ; nor had they any other clothes or covering but the remnant of an old blanket and a sack : so that I cannot conceive,

had every table in the parish provided them with meat and drink, and the Almighty with health, but they must have perished with cold in such a house, and in such a naked condition.

Upon a strict enquiry amongst the neighbours, I found they had been so ill, as to be confined from last Saturday three weeks; and that this day fortnight one of the overseers of the parish-poor came and left half a crown for them, directing a neighbour to get them some tea, or other sustenance; and this neighbour did ask them what should be bought with it: the woman replied, imperfectly, 'a faggot, some brown sugar, and a candle, which were bought accordingly; and put, together with the change of the half crown, in the house near them. From this time, however, till eleven days after, (when they were by a shepherd's boy, accidentally discovered to be dead), it does not appear, that either parish officer, or neighbour, had the humanity to enter the house, to look in at the holes or window, or to take the least notice of their well-known wretched, and starving condition: for they perceived, and acknowledged that no fire was made with the purchased faggot; and that they had seen no smoke to issue from the chimney for a fortnight before they were found dead; at which time the same faggot, the change, and the candle lay, as they were left by the neighbour who fetched them. A report had been industriously spread that they had the Gaol Distemper, (though they never had been in a gaol), and no one would approach the house.

Upon my return from viewing both inside and outside of this wretched scene, I wrote the following notes to John and Samuel Bassett, brothers, one the church-warden, the other the overseer of the parish poor.

Mr. Bassett,

I DESIRE, nay, I require, that you do not cause the four dead persons, namely, James Eaves, his wife, and two

children, to be buried till the coroner has held an inquest on their bodies, and the cause, and authors of their death, are properly enquired into.

Dutchworth, Jan. 23, 1769.

Yours, &c.

I omitted in the proper place to say, that the third child, a boy of eleven years of age, was found crawling on the floor, amidst the dead bodies of his father, mother, brother, and sister, cramped and emaciated; and though sensible, unable to tell how long the other part of the family had been dead.

I received no answer to the above note, and suspecting that the bodies would be privately huddled into the grave, I set out to visit them a second time, but on my way, met the constable and another man driving a cart, as I thought, loaded with boxes. I then asked him whether he had received any notice from the coroner to summon a jury, and at the same time told him, if he did, not to forget that I was ready and willing to serve upon it; and as he promised to observe my notice, I had no suspicion at first, that the cart contained two coffins; which were partly concealed by straw and litter being laid over them; but, upon enquiry, he confessed that he was going with them for interment, by order of the parish officers; upon which I returned home, and wrote to Dr. Smyth, the rector, reminding him of the consequence, and beseeching him to give me his assistance to bring this seeming dark transaction to light. He in return professed his willingness so to do; but said he was informed, that at a meeting at Welwyn, of some justices of the peace and the coroner, they had thought proper to order the bodies to be buried, and that he could not, in that case, refuse it, but that he had not yet received their orders. But in a postscript he added, that the parish officer was just come, and had brought only a verbal order, which was not sufficient for him; and that he had there-

fore directed the bodies to be placed in the church, and put a stop to the interment. Upon examination of the parish officers, and the acknowledgment of the coroner, it did appear that he had shewn the justices my paper, requiring an inquisition to be held, but that they had, notwithstanding, given the order for the dead bodies to be buried. Convinced that these gentlemen had not erred, I became alarmed at my own indiscretion, and immediately gave out that I was going to London, but in truth I went only to Hatfield, where I was informed a gentleman lived, who neither wanted abilities to advise me, nor humanity to assist me, in searching out the truth; and just such a man I found in Mr. Searancke, of that town. A letter I received from him this day, does his head and his heart so much honour, that I venture here to insert it, with my apology for taking that liberty.

SIR,

January 25, 1769.

HAD I known that the inquisition would have been taken to-day upon the bodies of those unhappy wretches, I would have certainly attended; but to-morrow being market day, and many persons expected to come for money, makes it impossible for me to be at Datchworth, according to my inclination.

My servant tells me, that some gentlemen, eminent for their skill in physic and surgery, are ordered to attend to give their opinion. If it should be found, that they were starved to death, or perished for want of necessaries, then it becomes the necessary duty of every good and humane man to assist and bring those to punishment, in a legal way, who, through negligence or wilfulness, suffered a whole family to be lost.

As the law vests the officers of a parish with a power to raise money for the relief of the impotent poor; if they, with a deliberate intention, suffer them to perish, it is a

crime little short of murder ; but I am afraid not punishable as such.

A gaoler is guilty of wilful murder, that suffers a prisoner to die through duress : can an officer of a parish be guilty of a less crime, that withholds necessary relief from a pauper, whom it is his duty to provide with all necessaries proper for his case ?

I never did hear of a similar instance to that under your consideration ; and by making a public example, the like may be prevented.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN SEARANCE.

As soon as it was known, or believed I was gone to London, the coroner was written to, who gave immediate direction to the parish officers to summon a jury, to assemble the next morning ; and upon my seeing the constable of this parish, he informed me, his directions were to summon seven parishioners, but that he did not know where to find them ; when I again repeated what I had said the day before. But he told me, honestly, that he had orders to the contrary ; and the church-warden did, on his examination upon oath, acknowledge that he did give such orders to the constable ; and as orders were given by the church-warden that I should not be upon the jury, it is neither unreasonable, nor improbable, to suppose, that the same person might give him orders likewise who should. Certain it is, that I was foreman of a jury, composed of the most illiterate part of the parish, while many substantial farmers were within reach : and I think, they all were, or all who spoke were, of a different opinion with myself. For I could not, nor would agree with them, that the persons in question did not die owing to want of care, attendance, provisions, or a habitable house ; and that

there had been great negligence somewhere; till the coroner assured me, there was only this alternative, to find it wilful murder, or that they died a natural death; but that the latter verdict did not in the least obstruct other legal proceedings against any persons, who might, upon further enquiry, appear culpable. It appeared that no apothecary or surgeon had ever been sent to visit these wretched people; and therefore the inquisition was, by my direction, adjourned till the next day, that we might avail ourselves in having the opinion of some surgeon to inspect the bodies. Accordingly, Mr. Frost, an eminent and able surgeon of Hertford, attended the next day; and did agree, that he never saw bodies more emaciated, and that certainly there had been great neglect somewhere; and particularly that no person of the faculty had been called in to visit them. I asked him, if he had been called in, whether he would have attended? to which he replied in the affirmative; and added, that there were no persons, however poor, or however ill, that he was not always ready to attend and assist.

It appeared on the examination of one neighbour, that the surviving boy was the only one, for a long time, that was able to crawl out; that he had once or twice borrowed the lid of her oven; that when he came, he was almost naked, having only a kind of sack over his shoulder; that she asked him, why he did not go to service; he replied, because the parish would not clothe him, and no one would take him naked; that, however, he had not been for the oven lid within the last fortnight, nor had appeared; but that she did see the poor mother crawl out, about ten days ago, with a kettle, to get a little water, from a kind of pond, at a small distance from the house; that in endeavouring to carry it in, she fell down, lost the kettle, and crept on her hands and knees into her hovel again; and this was the last time either of the deceased persons were seen alive. The poor woman, however, who fetched the

faggot, declared, that she would have attended upon them, if she had been directed, and that she was under no apprehension of catching their distemper; but as she is very poor, I think she is not quite out of danger. If it should so please God, that the surviving child should recover his strength, it is probable his memory also may recover, and that he may be able to wipe away the foul imputations which fall upon the parish in general, and upon a few individuals in particular. I could add much more to what I have already said, but I am convinced I have said what must justify this publication every where, but where I live, and in the eyes of all honest men there too. I shall therefore conclude this narrative, with exhorting all parish officers, as well as all those to whom the care of the sick, the lame, the poor, and the wretched, are committed, to let this dismal tale make a deep impression on their minds; and to consider that these four unhappy persons died a more miserable and cruel death than felons who are broken alive on the wheel, or those who are tortured to death by the Inquisition in Spain or Portugal; and yet the heaviest charge that has been laid to them is, that they were slothful and idle; and even to this charge the man did not appear liable.

I think it necessary to assign the reasons why I have annexed to this narrative a plate, [*the author having made a drawing of the horrid scene,*] that must strike home to the hearts of the most hardened, and prove to the most humane, offensive; but it ought to be remembered, that many people who are able to read, and even to write, are, nevertheless, unable to understand what they do read; and many such persons, I fear, are intrusted with the care of the poor. A print, therefore, to such people, is a lesson which all capacities may learn; it is a language every man can read; and as it has some, though very faint resemblance, of the deathly figures from whence it was taken, I flatter myself, it may make a deep and permanent impres-

sion on the minds of those men, who are disposed to forget that we are all made of the same composition ; and that the day is not very remote, that even the youngest, the fairest, and the most beautiful part of the creation must fade, and become an object in the grave, at least, as ghastly as any of these. I must likewise bespeak the favour of the candid reader, to excuse the many errors of my pen : it was wholly written in the evening of a day, most disagreeably employed in a capacity in which I never served before, and hope I never shall again ; a day, in which my mind has been distracted, not only by seeing shocking deformities in death, but in life also ; a day, in which I have seen men, sinking with age and infirmities into the grave, violating with oaths and lies, the consecrated ground, which in a few months, (perhaps days,) may cover their bodies for ever.

William Eaves, the surviving child, is recovering his health ; but he can give no particular account of the horrid scene which passed before their eyes ; it is therefore natural to conclude, his mind was at that time frozen up with his body. An elder son, who was out at service, says, he visited his father, mother, &c. some time about last Christmas ; that he found them ill, and in a starving helpless condition ; that they directed him to go to the overseer's house, and ask for relief ; that the overseer was not at home, but that a woman there exclaimed, " Send them relief ! send them a halter !—let them die and be d—d !" That on his return to inform his distressed parents of his ill success, he met the man, who refused then to give them any assistance ; he accordingly informed his parents therewith, who replied, " then we must perish." That he was desirous of visiting them a few days afterwards, but living at some distance, his dame would not give him leave, and he saw them no more.

I cannot finish this account, without expressing my surprise and concern that this disaster does not seem to make any impression on those whose more immediate duty it is to

see that other poor do not perish likewise : for nine women and children are now in a hut within one hundred yards of that in which the family perished ; which hut is open in many places on the top, the sides, and the ends, so that they cannot escape the violence of the frost, the wind, nor the rain ; and they assure me, the late snow came upon them night and day in great quantity. This house, and the condition in which many of the inhabitants are, is well known to many gentlemen in the neighbourhood. I am informed, Mr. Young, of Welwyn, has, within a few days, visited it ; and I accompanied Mr. Searancke, of Hatfield, to it this day. To these gentlemen (men of known probity and fortune) those who are doubtful of the facts, may appeal : for though this be an anonymous production, the reader may be informed of the author's name, by enquiring of the publishers.

It is asserted by some of the parish officers, that this family died of the gaol distemper ; for though they never were in a gaol, yet a man died in the same house not long since who had ; and who, it is said, died of that disorder. Why then was this family put into an infectious house ? Why did they lie and die upon dirt and nastiness ? Why was clean straw put in to lay their dead bodies upon ? And why has Susannah Stratton, a poor widow of this parish, made oath before Mr. Searancke this day, that her late husband did perish, and was starved to death for want of necessaries, in the same house, about the year 1763 ?

Datchworth, Feb. 18th, 1769.

P. S. A report has prevailed, that the coroner charges the author with having bribed a young woman, who was examined upon oath relative to this affair, before her deposition was taken. The author here declares it is false, and that the coroner knows it to be so. Nothing was given till after the verdict was signed, when he gave her half-a-crown ; which was in consideration of that very singular attention

she had shown towards the unhappy persons, which may soon appear more fully in a *proper place*.

SOME ACCOUNT OF

NANNETTE STOCKER, 33 INCHES,
AND JOHN HAUPTMAN, 36 INCHES IN HEIGHT,
EXHIBITED AT NO. 22, NEW BOND-STREET, IN MARCH 1815.

THESE little personages have drawn together great crowds of the fashionable world, to witness not only their diminutive size, but their wonderful performances, Nannette on the piano-forte, and Mr. Hauptman on the violin.

The phenomenon Nannette Stocker is at this time 33 years of age, 33 inches high, and weighs exactly 33 pounds; she was born at Kammer, the lordship of Monsieur the Count of Kevenhuler, in Upper Austria, near Bavaria; her mother bore her ten months and twenty-four days before her birth. It is remarkable that this girl was larger at the delivery than children usually are. Since the age of four years her stature has been fixed at thirty-three inches; her mother was five feet three inches high, and her brother, who is two years younger, is also of a proper growth.

She is perfectly formed in every respect, and for fifteen years, to the astonishment of every one, her growth was scarcely perceivable, although she had always a good appetite, and had never experienced any illness.

In consequence of her continuing so diminutive, her guardian, who had adopted her at the death of her mother, determined to show her to the public; he commenced travelling with her on the 27th of October, 1797, and soon afterwards arrived at Ratisbon, where Nannette was particularly admired; from thence our little heroine visited nearly the whole of the Continent of Europe, surprising all that saw her.



CANNETTE STOCKER.

33 inches high.

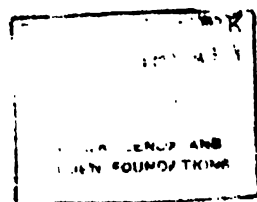


JOHN HAUPTMAN.

36 inches high.

Exhibited in London 1815.

Published March 24th 1815 by B. & C. 47, St. Pauls Church Yard, London.



" Let me now die in peace ; I want no more in this world." She died 1784.

Mr. FLEMING—128, of Liverpool, factor. He left a son and a daughter, each upwards of 100. He died 1771.

EDGLEBERT HOFF—128, of Fish-hill, near New York. He was born in Norway, and could remember that he was a lad driving a team, when the news was brought to that country that King Charles I. was beheaded. He served as a soldier under the Prince of Orange, in the time of King James II. He died, March 1765.

JOHN JACOB—128,

the celebrated patriarch of Mount Jura ; from the inhabitants of which place, (who were formerly in a state of vassalage,) he was sent, in 1789, as a deputy to the National Assembly of France, to return thanks, in the name of his countrymen, for the blessings of liberty, diffused amongst them, by the abolition of the feudal system. This venerable old man, at the age of 127, was led into the hall by his daughter ; and, after having been introduced to the assembly, was seated opposite to the President. He was received with that respect which all wise nations pay to age ; for, on his entrance, all the members stood up, and he was desired to sit covered, which he accordingly did, with the patriotic cockade in his hat. A subscription was immediately made for his support, and the king granted him a pension. After being a spectator of the greatest part of the reign of Louis XIV. and all that of Louis XV. ; by a singular destiny, he had been conducted to the presence of Louis XVI. The committee of his district, in conformity with the respect shewn by the King, and the National Assembly, followed the hearse at his funeral, which was uncommonly pompous and solemn. He died 1790.

ABRAHAM STRODMAN—128, of Rouen, France ; was a native of Alexandria, in Egypt. He died 1772.

MARY YATES—128, of Shiffnall, Shropshire. She lived many years entirely on the bounty of Sir Harry and Lady Bridgeman. She well remembered the fire of London, the ruins of which she went to view on foot. She was hearty and strong at 120 years, and married a third husband at 92. Her death is recorded on a small board, affixed to a pillar, opposite to the pulpit, in Shiffnal church. She died 1776.

OWEN CAROLLAN—127, of Duleek, county of Meath, in Ireland, labourer; had six fingers on each hand, and six toes on each foot. He died, November 1764.

JAMES FORTHTON, Esq.—127, of Grenada. He was born in Bourdeaux, in 1647, settled in the West Indies in 1694; married at St. Christopher's, and removed to Martinico, where he remained 30 years. The remainder of his life he passed at Grenada. He retained his sight till his 117th year; his health began to decay only a few days before his death. He died 1773.

DAVID GRANT—127, near Kinross, in Scotland. He was attended to his grave by 118 descendants. He died 1758.

WILLIAM HUGHES—127, of Tadcaster, Yorkshire. Died 1769.

WILLIAM JOHNSTON, Esq.—127, of Aldenham, Herts, lieutenant-colonel of Invalids. He died 1768.

Mr. KIRWAN—127, of Ferns, in Ireland. He died 1788.

ROBERT M'FARLAND—127, of Donaghmore, county of Donegal, in Ireland. He could read the smallest print without the use of glasses, till within a few days of his death. He died 1805.

MADAME GIRODELLE, maiden—127, of St. Omer's in France. She died 1772.

MARY INNES—127, at Glasnakilly, Isle of Sky, formerly servant in the family of Glasnakilly. She lived to see the sixth generation, and retained the use of her faculties to the last. She died 1814.

DANIEL MULLERY—127, of Liney, in Ireland. He died 1774.

JOHN NEWELL, Esq.—127, of Michael's Town, Ireland. He was grandson of Thomas Parr; he lived to the above great age by extreme temperance, and much exercise. He died 1763.

ROBERT MONTGOMERY—127, of Skipton in Craven. He was born in Scotland; the oldest inhabitant of Skipton never knew him otherwise than as an old man. He latterly obtained his living by begging, which he was able to do the year preceding his death. He died 1671.

JANE SCRIMSHAW—127. She was born in the parish of Bow, and died in Rosemary-lane work-house, London, in 1711.

A SHEPHERD, at Gompag in Hungary—126. He died in 1800.

JOHN BAYLES—126, of Northampton. Died 1706.

MARTHA HANNA—126, near Cullybackey, in Ireland. Died 1808.

CATHERINE PHELAN—126, of Borris, Queen's county, in Ireland. She died 1789.

ALEXANDER BENNET—125, of Down, in Ireland. He was a dragoon at the battle of Boddle, under King Charles II. He died 1749.

M. CLOOSTER—125, of Beeston, Westphalia. He served as an officer in the armies of the Emperors, and the Kings of Sweden and Denmark, near a century. He died, 1785.

MR. FROOME—125, of Holmes-chapel, Cheshire. He was gardener to the Hon. John Smith Barry, who in consideration of his great age, and long services, left him an annuity of fifty pounds, which he enjoyed, with unusual health, till about two years before his death. He left a son aged ninety. He died 1784.

JAMES GRASMAY—125, of Presburg, in Hungary; a Fleming. He died 1740.

Mr. GERNON—125, of the county of Louth, in Ireland; could read very small print to the last. He died 1780.

Mrs. JONES—125, of Camberwell work-house, Surry. She remembered the coronation of King Charles II. and enjoyed her health and senses till near her death. She died 1775.

GEORGE KIRTON, Esq.—125, of Oxnop-hall, Yorkshire. He was a most remarkable fox-hunter, following the chase on horseback till he was eighty years of age: from that period to one hundred years he regularly attended the unkennelling the fox in his single chair; and no man, till within ten years of his death, made more free with his bottle. He died August 1764.

M. OSTROKI—125, of Zodorsky. He attended, as page, on John Sobieski, when he relieved Vienna, besieged by the Turks in 1683. He died 1786.

MARTHA PRESTON—125, of Barnsley, Yorkshire; had twenty-seven children by five husbands. She died 1769.

SAMUEL PINNOCK—125, of Kingston, in Jamaica; a negro man. Till within the two last years, his faculties were perfectly sound, and his memory remarkably retentive. Of the dreadful earthquake in 1692, which nearly destroyed Port-royal, he had perfect recollection; and was on board a ship lying near Fort Augusta, when the catastrophe took place; and has frequently narrated the melancholy business with a minuteness of detail, which none but an eye-witness could have given. He died May 16, 1796.

MARGARET SCOTT—125, of Scotland; she was a maid twenty-five years, a wife fifty, and a widow fifty. She died 1779.

JOHN TICE—125, of Hagley, Worcestershire. He was born in the protectorship of Oliver Cromwell. When about eighty years of age, he had the misfortune to have both his legs broken by falling off a tree; and a violent cold afterwards settling in his head, rendered him very deaf. At the

age of one hundred, whilst sitting by his fireside alone, he was seized with a fainting fit, fell into the fire, and being a cripple, could not extricate himself, but a person accidentally coming into the room, preserved him from death, though he was much burnt; yet with proper care in a short time he recovered, and took his customary walk. But the greatest misfortune that could have befallen him, and which he did not long survive, was the death of his only friend, Lord Lyttelton, for after that event he never left his room. He retained all the faculties of his mind to the time of his death. His younger brother died a few years before at Kidderminster, Worcestershire, aged one hundred and two. He died, February 26, 1774.

A NATIVE AFRICAN—124; there was living in Sussex county, state of Delaware, in 1811, a native African, who was 124 years of age. His strength at 70 was unimpaired, and exceeded the strength of much younger men. All his teeth were sound, and in their full number. His vision was as correct as it was in early life, his hearing was somewhat impaired, also his memory as to persons, but to events and situations was in a sound state. He had 3 wives and 31 children. The account of this extraordinary instance of longevity was communicated to a gentleman of the city of Boston, by Dr. Gibbons, of Sussex, by whom the facts therein mentioned were obtained from the venerable subject of them himself, and confirmed by several of his neighbours.

ELIZABETH BROWN—124, of Port-Royal, Jamaica; a negro woman. She died 1798.

CATHERINE BREBNER—124, near Aberdeen, in Scotland. She died February 1762.

DON ANDREW BUENO—124, of Badajoz, in Portugal. He was lieutenant of a regiment of foot upwards of one hundred years, and always in service. He died 1753.

Mrs. BOWLES—124, of West-Hanny, Berks, widow. She died 1749.

HODOL—124, at Old Constantinow, in Volhyrica, a gentleman named Hodol, at the age of 124. When he was twenty-one, he served under Sobieski before Vienna: he was never married, nor felt sickness.

ATTILA—124, king of the Huns, hearty and strong at such great age, he led to the altar of Hymen, as a second wife, one of the most beautiful princesses of the age, and the next day died of excess. He died in 500.

ROBERT PARR—124, of Kinver, near Bridgenorth, Shropshire. He was great grandson of the well-known Thomas Parr; he obtained the name of young Parr, although he was upwards of fourscore years of age, as living at the time with the very old man. He died 1757.

ANDREW SCHMIDT—124, of Teschen, in Upper Silesia. He died 1753.

ANDREW VISAL DE NEGRIEROS—124, Chief Judge at Siara, died in 1773. He possessed an excellent memory, and all his senses in perfection to the last. He had 30 sons and five daughters; who, with their descendants, amounted to 188 persons. Of these, at the time of his death, 149 were living in the same house with their venerable progenitor.

WILLIAM WAKKLEY—124, a native of Shiffnall, Shropshire. He lived in the reigns of eight kings and queens, and was buried at Adbaston, which is recorded on a small board, affixed to a pillar, opposite the pulpit, in Shiffnall church. He died 1714.

JOHN WALNEY—124, of Glasgow, carpenter; he married 11 wives, all of whom he buried. He had 17 children, five of whom survived him, whose ages, together, made 326 years; he was seldom ill, and retained his senses. He died 1757.

THOMAS WISHART—124, of Annandale, North Britain. He died 1760.

A FEMALE PAUPER—124, at Liverpool, in the workhouse. She retained all her faculties to the last, except

the sight, which two months previous to her dissolution, had been much impaired. She died 1809.

JEAN ARAGUS—123, of Lastua, in Turkey, caravan driver. He died 1778.

JOSHUA CREWMAN—123, a pensioner of Chelsea-hospital. He served as a soldier, in the reigns of King George I. and II., and was discharged in the 74th year of his age. He died 1794.

ANDREW BRIZIN DEBRA—123, of Turin. His death was occasioned by a fall, otherwise, had no such accident happened, he might probably have lived many years longer. He died 1774.

BRIDGET SPEDDING—123, near Whitehaven. She died 1768.

MATTHEW TAIT—123, of Auchinleck, Ayrshire; was formerly a soldier, and was at the taking of Gibraltar by the British, in 1704. He died 1792.

ANDREW WILSON—123, of the parish of Galston, Ayrshire, farmer. He was born in the reign of King Charles II. and remembered the battle of Ayrmoor, in the parish of Auchinleck, and of the dragoons searching his father's house, after the battle, for Mr. Cargill, and other Whigs. He walked till within a day or two of his death, retaining his senses perfect. He died 1787.

DOMANGES DONNEMAISON—122, of Lombes, in France. She left three children, the youngest 76 years old. She died 1777.

MRS. CARMAN—122, of Fethard, in Ireland, widow. She died 1771.

GEORGE DELANEY—122, of the south of France; could walk well to the last. He died 1760.

CATHARINE GILES—122, of Glenwherry, county of Belfast, in Ireland. She died 1758.

St. PATRICK—122, the first bishop in Ireland. He was

carried thither a captive from Scotland, at the age of 16 years. He died 491.

ANTONIA SERRA DE QUTEIRO—122, a peasant, died in 1798, at Santa Eulatia de Parderubias, in the bishopric of Orense. He did not marry till in his 60th year, and was the father of six children. He never took physic, and was never ill but once. He had all his teeth till his 100th year, and could see till the last day of his life to thread the finest needle.

ELIZABETH WILSON—122, of Maidston, Northampton. She died 1767.

FRANCIS BENCE—121, of Femersgran, in the Agenoise, in France. He died 1771.

——— CONWAY—121, a poor woman, died at Tralee, Ireland, in 1790. She had never worn shoes or stockings, or had been ill in all her life.

HANNIBAL CAMOUX—121, of Marseilles, labourer. He died 1759.

WILLIAM FARR—121, of Birmingham, Tamworth carrier. He had, in the whole, children, grand children, and great-grandchildren, to the amount of 144; but what is remarkable, he survived all his numerous posterity; and therefore bequeathed 10,000*l.* to charitable uses. He died 1770.

Mrs. GRAY—121, of Northfleet, Kent, the oldest inhabitant of that place. She was born deaf and dumb, and yet lived to the above great age. She died 1770.

ELIZABETH HILTON—121, of Liverpool, widow. She died October 1760.

MATTHEW HUBERT—121, of Birt, in Ireland. He died November 1764.

HENRIETTA LONG—121, of Hoxton. She formerly sold grey pease about the streets of London. She died 1788.

MARGARET M'KAY—121, of Ribigil, near Thurso, in the county of Caithness, Scotland; nearly related to Lord Rae. She died 1771.

MARY PYMM—121, of Grosvenor-square, London. For many years she subsisted entirely on the bounty of the benevolent. She died 1743.

JOHN RIDER—121, a Palatine, resided near Dublin. He served under the Duke of Wirtemburgh, when Vienna was besieged by the Turks, in 1683, and retained all his senses. Towards the end of his life he was supported by his friends. He died 1769.

SIR FLEETWOOD SHEPHARD—121, at his seat, Essex. He was the particular friend of Mr. Prior, the poet. He died 1769.

ELEANOR SPICER—121, of Acomack, in Virginia; was able to work at spinning, till within six months of her death, and retained her senses to the last. She died 1773.

OWEN TUDOR, Esq.—121, of Llangollen, Denbighshire; a descendant of King Henry VII. (Duke of Richmond.) He died 1771.

JOHN WHALLEY—121, of Rotherhithe work-house. He died 1772.

PRISCILLA WRAGG—121, of St. Jago de la Vega, a free negro woman. She died 1798.

MR. ADAM—120, of Drogheda, in Ireland. He died 1768.

CHARLES COTTEREL—120, of Philadelphia. His wife died within four days of him, at the age of 115. They lived together in the marriage state 98 years, in great union and harmony. He died January 1761.

JOHN CHUMP—120, of Kildare, in Ireland. He died 1769.

JOHN CAMPBELL—120, of Dungannon, in Ireland; was a native of Scotland, and formerly a marine. He was in the fleet, when the boom was broken at Londonderry, in 1689; and was with Admiral Rooke, at the taking of Gibraltar. He was of a low stature, had an aquiline nose, and had lost an eye. He died 1791.

WILLIAM EDIE—120, of Canongate, in Edinburgh, bellman. He had buried the inhabitants of Canongate thrice.

He was 90 years a freeman, and married a second wife, after he was 100 years of age. He died 1731.

Mr. GILSHENEN—120, of Donell, in Ireland. He died 1771.

JOHN HAYNES—120, of Witney, Oxfordshire, shoemaker. He died 1776.

SIEUR DE LA HAYE—120, of the Hague, a native of France; was at the taking of Utrecht, in 1672, and at the battle of Malplaquet, in 1709. He travelled by land to Egypt, Persia, the Indies, and China. At the age of 70 he married, and had five children. He died 1774.

FREDERICK HARPE—120, of Fish-hill, Cumberland. He died 1792.

DOMINICK JOYCK—120, of Carrowbeg, in Ireland. He died February 1705.

SUSANNAH MACKARNKY—120, of Dublin, a beggar woman. She retained all her faculties to the moment of her decease. In different parts of her bed, there was found concealed, upwards of 250*l.* in cash. She died 1751.

CLAUDE LOTTRIEL—120, died at Philadelphia, in America, in 1760. His wife, who died three days after him, was 115. They had lived happily together 98 years.

Mrs. MOORE—120, of Enniskillen, in Ireland. She died 1765.

JOHN MACKAY—120, near Cardigan. He seldom was ill, and though at such great age, retained his senses to the day of his death. He died May, 1766.

FRANCIS MONNO—120, of the village of Castro, in Spain. He died 1767.

Mrs. M'INTOSH—120, of Ashintully, Perthshire. This venerable lady bore her first child before the Revolution, in 1688, and her last after the rebellion in 1715. She died 1791.

WILLIAM MARSHALL—120,

of Kirkeudbright, in Scotland, tinker. He was a native of the parish of Kirkmichael, in the shire of Ayr. He retained

his senses almost to the last hour of his life; and remembered distinctly to have seen King William's fleet, when on their way to Ireland, riding at anchor in the Solway Frith, close by the bay of Kirkcudbright, and the transports lying in the harbour. He was present at the siege of Derry, where having lost his uncle, who commanded a king's frigate, he returned home, enlisted in the Dutch service, went to Holland, and soon after came back to his native country. A great concourse of people, of all ranks, attended his burial, and paid due respect to his age. The Countess of Selkirk, who for a course of years had liberally contributed to his support, on this occasion, agreeable to her wonted benevolence and compassion, discharged the expences of his funeral. He died 1792.

EVAN PRICE—120, of Dolgelly, in North Wales, labourer. He died 1753.

POMPEY—120, a black man, of Dover, in America. He died 1804.

PIASTUS—120, King of Poland. He was raised from a mean state to the throne, in 824, and gained immortal glory amongst his countrymen, by his prudent government. He died 861.

St. COEMGENE—120, commonly called St. Keiven, the Founder. He was both bishop and abbot of Gleandalock, or the seven churches in Wicklow, in Ireland. He abdicated his bishoprick, and contented himself with the abbacy, where he lived a solitary life, in the above place. He died 618.

DAVID SPALDING—120. In a petition presented to the Court of Sessions at Edinburgh, on the 9th of July 1796, it is stated, that David Spalding, of Auchintilly, succeeded his father in that estate, anno 1707; that he married Mrs. Margaret Lyon, who survived him many years, and died in the year 1781.

WILLIAM TROY—120, near Waterford, farmer. A short
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time before his death, he read very small print without spectacles, and daily walked about his farm without support. He died 1792.

BARBARA WILSON—120, of Whittingham, East-Lothian, in Scotland. She died 1773.

MARTHA ZACARA—120, of Mohegan, in America. She died 1805.

JOHN M'ALPIN—119.

John M'Alpin, grazier in Jura, died at the age of 119 years, and retained perfect health, and the possession of all his faculties to the last. He might have lived many years longer, had not grief for the misconduct of his relations, who were implicated in the rebellion of 1745, put a period to his life. M'Alpin in his youth was weakly and full of bad humours, which were continually breaking out in boils all over his body. His father, who was likewise a grazier, kept him at home to look after his cattle till he was 19 years old, when he left his native island, and went frequently for the purpose of buying and selling beasts to Argyleshire. There he addicted himself to drinking and late hours, and greatly impaired his health. A hurt on his shin produced very dangerous consequences, and even threatened a mortification. All the old women and quacks in the island tried to heal it for two years, but without effect, for the patient lived as he pleased, drinking spirits, and eating as much as he liked. At length M'Laughton, a skilful surgeon, took him under his care, and prevailed upon M'Alpin to submit to a strict regimen. In three months he accomplished a perfect cure, and his advice made so deep an impression on his patient, that during the rest of his life it was punctually followed by M'Alpin, who never had any farther occasion for medicine, or even to be let blood. At that time it was customary in the Highlands, as it still is in the isles of Scotland, to take but two meals a day, at nine and at six o'clock. M'Alpin adhered to this practice; he retired to rest with the sun, and rose with the lark. His

Breakfast consisted of grits partly boiled with milk, and partly with water, and of bread, butter, cheese, or eggs. His second meal was composed of flesh or fish, with vegetables. He never ate so much but what his stomach would have taken more. In general he drank about four times as much as the amount of the solid food, and chiefly water-gruel. Besides this, his ordinary beverage was toast and water, previously boiled. It was only twice a year that he indulged himself with spirits, at Whitsuntide and Martinmas, when he paid his landlord his rent; on these occasions he would drink till he was exhilarated. When he was obliged to remain a long time in the cold, he would take the yolk of an egg, about twice the quantity of honey, and a quarter of a pint of good brandy mixed up together; but never at any other time. He never smoked tobacco, ate in general barley or oat-bread, was constantly engaged in something, and always good-humoured. When he felt unwell, which was very rarely the case, fasting and sweating were almost the only means to which he resorted. They have in the islands a simple sudorific composed of thin water-gruel, honey and butter. This mess M'Alpin drank as hot as possible, and it never failed to produce a moderate perspiration. In regard to his clothing, he differed in no respect from his countrymen; except that he was accustomed to keep a piece of flannel upon his stomach. He wore the Scotch plaid, but very seldom breeches: if early in the day he came in his peregrinations to water, he waded straight through it, and kept his wet shoes and stockings on till night; by these means, he continued till his advanced age as hardy and strong as the youngest man in the country.—After the defeat of the Pretender at Culloden in 1746, M'Alpin lost in some measure his former chearfulness. From that time he seemed rather dull, but he complained of nothing till about a week before his death, when sensible of his approaching dissolution, he

apprised his relations of it, and expired with the utmost composure and tranquillity.

MARGARET AUNFREE—119, of Utrecht. She died 1772.

WILLIAM CATANACK—119, of Pluscardin, parish of Elgin, in the north of Scotland. He died 1747.

ESTHER DUGGAN—119, near Drumcondra, in Ireland. She died May, 1768.

MARY ELLIS—119, of Leigh, Essex. In a vault at Leigh, to her memory is, "Here lies the body of Mary Ellis; daughter of Thomas Ellis, and Lydia his wife, of this parish. She was a virgin of virtuous courage and very promising hopes." She died June 3d, 1609.

PETER DERRY—119, of Dublin. He died 1777.

SIMON HOLLY—119, of Olmutz, in Moravia. He died April 1766.

Mrs. HEATH—119, of Ottery, Devon. This lady perfectly recollected the landing of King William at Torbay, of which she used frequently to converse. She died 1786.

SANCHES JURADO—119, of Malaga, in Spain. He died April 1766.

MARIA LOPEZ—119, died at Villanova de Foz Coa, in 1797. Her brother Benito Joseph Lopez, a sailor, died at Lisbon in the same year, aged 106 years.

JURDEN NIELSON—119, of Zealand. Died September 1765.

FRANCIS NENEZ—119, of Caldas, in Portugal; a mechanic. He died 1790.

WINIFRED REES—119. In the retired parish of Llanbedr, in the isle of Anglesea, there was living in 1809, a woman of the name of Winifred Rees, who had attained the patriarchal age of 119 years and nearly seven months: she enjoyed the undisturbed lease of a cottage, in which she had resided 105 years. She was blessed with the perfect use of all her mental faculties; her eyes being as good as they were

when she was in her 50th year; and, strange as it may seem, had scarcely a grey hair on her head.—On the 27th of March the same year, she walked the distance of 8 miles and back, to a relative's cottage, bringing home with her a parcel which weighed upwards of 22lbs.

AGNES SKUNER—119, of Camberwell, Surry. She was wife of Richard Skuner, who died January 1407, as appears by a Latin inscription on a monument in Camberwell church. The antiquity of the monument is very deserving the attention of the curious; but when the extraordinary age of the wife is properly considered, who survived her husband ninety-two years, it must appear a very remarkable inscription. She died 1499.

WILLIAM SKILLINGSBY—119, of Pinner, Middlesex. He died 1775.

GEORGE VANCE—119, of Clonsele, county of Tyrone, in Ireland. He died 1758.

SAMUEL ROOK WORRELL—119, of Dunwich, Suffolk, fisherman. He followed his employment till within eleven years of his death. He died 1789.

DENNIS CARROLE—118, of Ballygurton, county of Kilkenny, Ireland. He was a farmer, and during the lapse of his long life never experienced an hour's sickness. He died 1808.

MARGARET EDWARDS—118, of Berriew, Montgomeryshire. She died 1767.

Mr. FRASER—118, an invalid in the King's Royal Hospital, at Kilmainham, near Dublin. He served in all the campaigns made by King William, and lost his right arm in the trenches before Namur, at the siege of that place, (where the King commanded,) by a cannon ball. He died October 1768.

Mrs. FREEMAN—118, of Falmouth. Her sight was not so quick, but her intellects were quite perfect to the last. She died 1793.

Mrs. GARLAND—118, of Harbour Grace, Newfoundland. She had been deprived of sight for some years. Her daughter died at the same time, aged 86. She died 1801.

JOHN LAURENCE GONZALES—119, of Madrid. He died 1759.

ABEL GERBRANDS—118, of Groningen, in Holland, wheel-wright; a very laborious man, aged 118 years two months and ten days. He died 1767.

Mrs. HINKS—118, of Bridge-street, London. She left to ten parishes 1100*l*. She died 1772.

ELLEN HITCHCOCK—118, of Ashborne, Derbyshire. She died 1773.

CLAUDE JOSEPH JULIENE—118, of Pontoux, Arrondissement de St. Claud. He went to plough till within a year of his death, and to the last, walked constantly without a stick. He died 1802.

THOMAS KASPRUCK—118, of Helleschau, in Moravia, weaver. He never had any illness in that long life; and, till the day of his death, he retained the use of his senses. He continued to work at his trade till he was 114 years old. He died 1784.

BRIDGET KAVANAH—118, near Ranelagh, in Ireland. She died 1805.

JAMES LITTLEJOHN—118, of the parish of Mochrum, Gallowayshire, in Scotland. He had seen King Charles I. and Oliver Cromwell, in Scotland, and described them very justly. He retained all his faculties to the time of his decease. He died 1742.

ISABELLA LAUGHLIN—118, near Rathfryland, county of Derry, in Ireland. She left children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, to the number of 110. She died 1752.

ALEXANDER MACRAE—118.

“ was born in the parish of Kintail, 1687. He lived with his father, who held a small farm, until the age of 19, and then became a forester for five years. At the age of 24 he mar-

ried, and settled in his native farm, as a small tenant. He had four children; at the end of 14 years his wife died. In the year 1719, he fought under Lord Seaforth, in the battle of Glensheal. About the year 1724, he enlisted a private in the Scots Brigade, serving in Holland, seven years, the two last of which he was a prisoner in France. In 1731 he returned again to his farm, and married a second wife, who died a few years after, leaving no children. In 1765, he became so poor, that he gave up his farm, and procured subsistence by going about the country, rehearsing *Ossian's Poems*. In 1773 he married again, by whom he had three children, the last of whom was born when he was 96. About the year 1794, he was seized with a violent fever, by which he was deprived of the use of his limbs, and ever since has been unable to walk. He is now confined to his bed, deaf and blind; but his memory is still very correct. His general amusement is singing, and repeating Ossian's compositions; but he repeats so fast, that it is impossible to write them down; and if interrupted, he must again return to the beginning. These are the most striking particulars of his life that I have been able to collect from himself. He appears to have been a stout made, middle sized man, and still looks uncommonly well." This account is given by the Rev. Mr. Downie, Minister of Lochalsh, to Sir John Sinclair, dated Ardhill, by Lochcarron, October the 22nd, 1805.

GEORGE MEARTON—118, of Overysse, in Holland, fisherman. He died 1765.

SHELAGH M'ALESTER—118, of the county of Londonderry, in Ireland. He died 1773.

JAMES LE MEASURER—118, of St. Jean Pied de Port, in Navarre, was born in that town, and never 20 miles from it. His common food, for some years, was vegetables. He died 1783.

MARY M'DONNELL—118,
of Magheratempany, near Ballynahinch, in the county of

Down, in Ireland. She was born in the Isle of Sky, in Scotland, which place she left in the year 1688, and resided afterwards in the county of Down. The year before her death she walked to Moira, 14 miles, in one day, to see her landlord; and in the year 1783, reaped her ridge of corn, as well as the youngest people in the country. When she was at Moira, she had all her senses perfect, except a little weakness in her eyes, and seemed strong, healthy, and active. She died 1785.

ANN ROSS—118, of Leigh, in Scotland. She died 1782.

MARY ROGERS—118, of Penzance, Cornwall, lived the last 60 years on vegetables. She died 1779.

JOHN RIVA—118, of Venice, stock-broker. He was born at Morocco, married at 70, and had several children, the last at the age of 90. He retained his sight and hearing, and could walk to the last without a stick. He died 1771.

Mr. STAHR—118, of Leignitz, in Silesia. He served under Sobieski, King of Poland, when that monarch led an army, in 1684, to the relief of Vienna, at the time that city was besieged by the Turks. He did not accept of his discharge till he was 70 years old. He died 1784.

WILLIAM TASKER—118, of Tamworth, Warwickshire. He died 1785.

SIEUR DASON DE VERGER—118, of Lourday, in France. He married, after he was 100 years old, and rode hunting but 15 days before his death. He died 1744.

ANN LOUISA ALLARD—117, of Paris. She died 1767.

PETER BRYAN—117, of Tynan, county of Tyrone, in Ireland, could read the smallest print, without the assistance of a glass. He died 1755.

DANIEL BETTON—117, of the Orkneys. He died 1706.

DAVID BRIAN—117, of Tinncrake, in Ireland. He died 1776.

ELIZABETH BROADMAN—117, of Wilton, Somerset. She died 1784.

Mrs. COXSON—117, of Rodgley, Derbyshire; widow. She had 173 children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She died 1753.

Mrs. CLIFFORD—117, of Wexford, in Ireland. She died 1764.

RICHARD DAY—117, of Clavering, Essex, labourer. He died 1768.

JONATHAN EVANS—117, near Welsh-pool, Montgomeryshire. He left a son, aged 91 years, and a daughter 87. He died 1752.

MARIA EDERINN—117, died December 1, 1805, at the parsonage house of Fridorffing, in the duchy of Salzburg. According to the certificate of her baptism, she was born April 25, 1688. Her father was an honest weaver, who, on account of his poverty, had been permitted to live in the basement story of the old mansion of Lübenau. His daughter had never been any thing more than a servant, and during the last 20 years of her life, had been supported by the neighbouring peasants, who received her alternately into their houses.

MARY FOLEY—117, of Rothreigh, near Shanagolden, in Ireland. She had living, at the time of her death, six children, 94 grandchildren, 258 great-grandchildren, and 27 great great-grandchildren. She died 1781.

RICHARD GIBSON—117, of Sealby, near Carlisle, farmer. He died 1774.

Mr. HARE—117, of Stowe. He was in the service of Lord Cobham's family upwards of 80 years. He enjoyed his sight and hearing till a few weeks before his death. He died 1749.

ISAAC INGLEBY—117,

of Battle-abbey. He had been upwards of 95 years a domestic in the family of Lady Webster. A gentleman who had travelled 60 miles to see him, in November 1797, says, "I found Mr.

Ingleby, in an antique out-building, near the castle gate, where his table was spread under the arched roof; the whole building being nearly filled with billet wood, and scarcely affording room for the oaken bench on which he was reclining by the fire. His dress was a full-bottomed wig, a full-dressed chocolate suit, with yellow buttons. There was nothing in his look which impressed on the mind the idea of a person more than four-score years of age, except a falling of the under jaw, which bespoke his more advanced age. In each of his withered hands, he held a short, rude, beechen walking stick, about three feet high, by the help of which he was accustomed not only to walk about the extensive premises in which he passed his life, but to take little rambles about the town; and once, the old gentleman actually set out on a pedestrian excursion to Hastings, to *enquire for another situation in service*, because his patroness desired him to be more attentive to personal neatness. It is but justice to the lady alluded to, to add, that the uncouth abode of Mr. Ingleby was the only-one in which he could be persuaded to dwell, and which long familiarity had rendered dear to him. The choice appeared very extraordinary; but every thing belonging to the history of Mr. Ingleby was beyond the fixed and settled rules by which human life is, in general, regulated. He was strict in his religious duties, and would read prayers to his attendants twice a day, while his strength enabled him; and when that failed he never missed once. A portrait of him was lately published." He died 1798.

JOHN JACKSON—117, of Bernew-castle, gunner. He boasted much of having served under the great Duke of Marlborough, and of having since been engaged in nineteen different actions. He died 1799.

JAMES M'DONALD—117, of Cork. This man might have been truly called a singular character, not only for great

longevity, but for heighth, being no less than seven feet six inches. He died August 20, 1760.

ELIZABETH MACPHERSON—117, of the county of Caithness, in Scotland. Her diet was butter-milk and greens; she retained all her senses till within three months of her death. She died 1765.

DONALD M'GREGOR—117, of the Isle of Sky, in Scotland, farmer. He was temperate at meals, and took much exercise. He died 1768.

MARGARET MELVIL—117, of Kettle, Fifeshire. She had six children, seventeen grandchildren, and thirty-seven great-grandchildren; she renewed her teeth at one hundred years of age; never had an hour's illness, and could see and hear well till the day before her death. She died 1783.

WILLIAM MARSHALL—117, of Pillnear, near Newton Stewart, Cumberland, a travelling tinker. He followed his business the year before he died, and was more active than most men of sixty. He had an unusual flow of spirits, and frequently entertained his friends with a song, but a few weeks before his death, when he expressed his hopes of living twenty years longer. He died 1790.

DARBY NEALE—117, of Shibbereen, near Dingle, in Ireland. He died 1767.

FRANCIS IGNATIUS NAROCKI—117.

The following was attached to the 54th bulletin of the French army, in Russia.

Francis Ignatius Narocki, born at Witki, near Wilna, is the son of Joseph and Ann Narocki. He is of a noble family, and in his youth bore arms. He was one of the Confederation of Bar, was taken by the Russians, and sent to Kasan. Having lost the small fortune he possessed, he took to agriculture, and was employed as farmer to a curate. He married for the first time, at the age of 70 years, and had four children by that marriage. At 86 he married a

second wife, and had by her six children, who were all dead; there remains to him only the last son of his first wife.—The King of Prussia, in consideration of his great age, had granted to him a pension of 24 Polish florins per month, making 14 livres 8 sous French. He is subject to no infirmity, enjoys still a good memory, and speaks Latin with extreme facility; he cites the classics with spirit, and to the purpose.

The petition, of which the following is a translation; was entirely written with his own hand. The characters are very firm and legible:

PETITION.

“SIRE,

“My baptismal extract is dated 1690, therefore I am at present 117 years old. I recal yet to my mind the battle of Vienna, and the times of John Sobieski. I thought they would not be reproduced; but assuredly I expected still less to see again the age of Alexander. My old age has procured for me the benefactions of all Sovereigns who have been here, and I ask those of the Great Napoleon, being at my age, more than secular, incapable of work.

“Live, Sire, as long as I have lived; your glory needs it not; but the happiness of the human race demands it.

“NAROCKI.”

VERESIMO NOGUEIRA—117, of the parish of St. Joahnes de Godini, in the diocese of Oporto; was formerly a soldier, and was at the battle of Almanza. He always enjoyed good health; and it is not unlikely that he would have lived some years longer, had it not been for a fall, by which one of his legs was broken in three places, which occasioned his death. He had all his teeth, and all his hair, a few of which only were grown grey; and he enjoyed all his faculties. This old man is a proof that an advanced age is not confined to the northern climates. He died 1786.

JOHN PHILLIPS—117, of Thorn, near Leeds, Yorkshire.

He lived under eight crowned heads, and was able to walk till within a few days of his death. His teeth were good, and his sight and hearing tolerable. At about the age of twenty-eight, being constable of the parish, he, upon some disorders, committed two of Oliver Cromwell's soldiers to the town-stocks; who, far from resenting it, wished that every one of his men had but half his courage. He died 1742.

EPHRAIM PRATT—117, born in 1687, was living at Philadelphia in 1804, at the age of 117. He married in his 26th year, had 6 sons and daughters, and 1500 descendants dispersed in North America. He had never been ill, never taken physic, or been bled; his intellectual faculties and his memory were still unimpaired.

HYACINTHE LA ROSA—117, of Algeziras, in Spain. Died 1771.

ELIZABETH SHAW—117, of Spilsby, in Lincolnshire. She died 1800.

JANE STEPHENSON—117, of Poulton in the Fylde, Lancashire. She died 1797.

MARTIN STEPHENSON—117, of Kentmeer, Westmoreland. He began his career in life with a capital of only sixteen shillings, and ended it with leaving, by will, eighteen thousand pounds, accumulated by industry and parsimony. He died a bachelor. His only domestics were his house-keeper and his dog; and he left his whole fortune to a man who was not related to him. He died 1782.

ELIZABETH WORTHINGTON—117, of Newton-Regis. She died 1778.

THOMAS WIMMS—117, near Tuam, in Ireland; was formerly a soldier, and fought at the battle of Londonderry, in 1701. He died 1791.

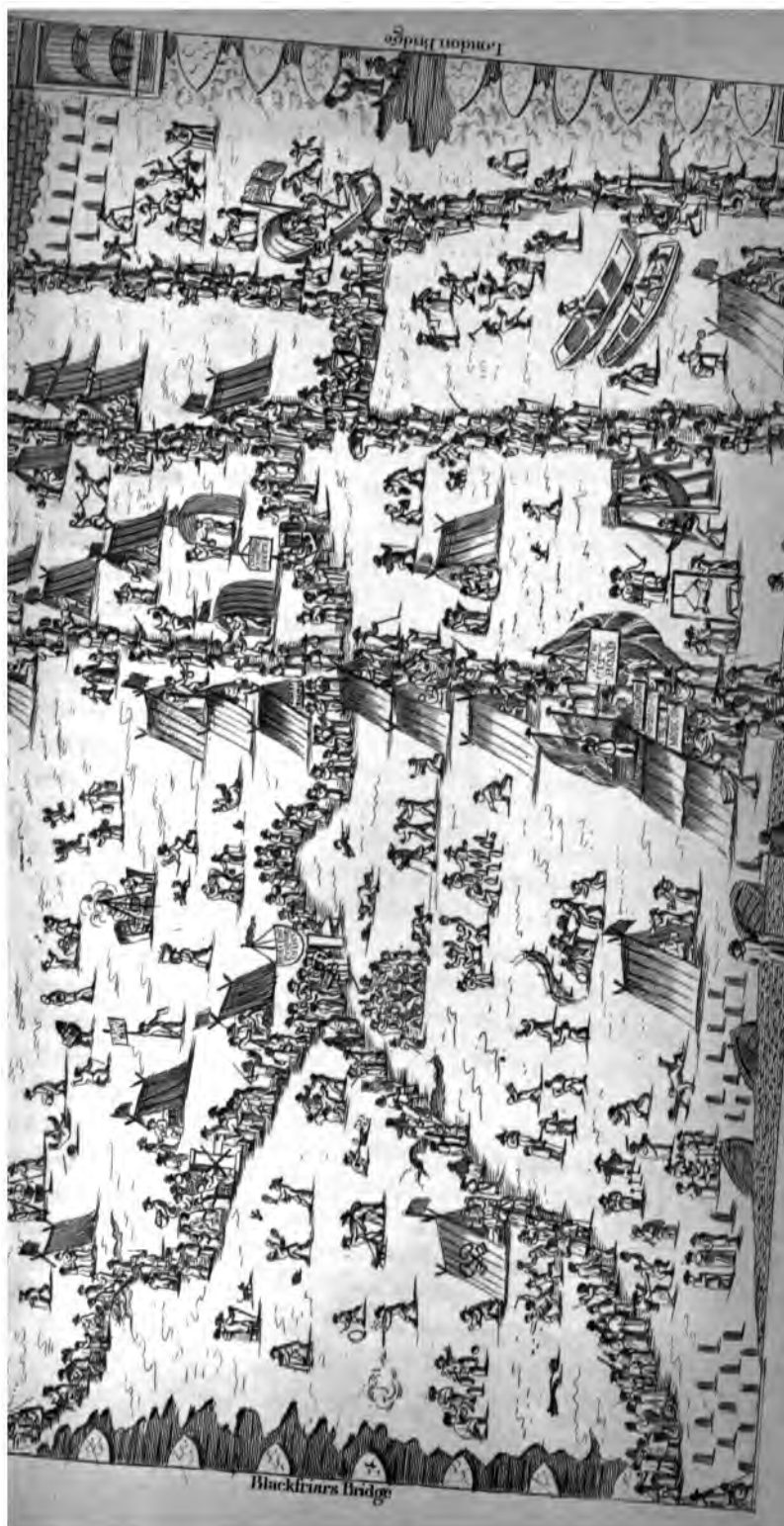


FROST FAIR,

**HELD ON THE THAMES, FROM JANUARY 31, TO FEBRUARY
THE 6TH, 1814.**

WITH A CORRECT BIRD'S-EYE VIEW.

THIS Fair will long be remembered by thousands who had the courage to venture upon the ice on the Thames, during its continuance, large quantities of which had floated up the river on Sunday the 30th of January, and on the return of the tide it came down again in such masses, that at London bridge the arches were not wide enough to enable it to pass; in consequence of which it completely choked up the Thames between London and Blackfriar's bridges. In a very short time after one o'clock a man ventured to cross from Bank-side to the City, although the ice was then moving about in large pieces, but before the tide could return, it became wedged so close together, that it was immoveable, and on Monday morning the 31st, several adventurous persons crossed the river, and their example was followed by a multitude of men and boys, that reached in a continued line from Queen-street stairs to Bank-side. The bridges were covered with crowds of people, expecting every moment to see them all go to the bottom, but it remained firm, and it drew on others, who ventured nearly over every part from London to Blackfriar's. A few places nearest Blackfriar's being still too weak to bear weight, some few fell in; after this it was thought so secure, that no one who had the least curiosity thought of danger; only how they could make up one of the thousands, men, women and children moving backwards and forwards in every direction. There was a complete path or grand street from Bankside to Queen-street, and Queenhithe, with a board nailed on a flag staff, calling it the New City-road, and each person that passed paid the



The Thames presented a complete field of ice between London, and Blackfriar's bridges, on Monday the 31st of January, 1814.—A fair is this day (February 4, 1814) held, and the whole space between the two bridges covered with spectators."

Another,

FROST FAIR.

" Amidst the arts which on the Thames appear,
To tell the wonders of this icy year;
Printing claims prior place, which at one view,
Erects a monument to Frost and you.

" Printed on the river Thames, February 4, in the fifty-fourth year of the reign of King George the Third; Anno Domini, 1814."

Another:—

"This was printed on the River Thames, on Friday the 4th of February, 1814, opposite Queenhithe."

Every vender of the different commodities gave his customer some token printed for the occasion. On Thursday the 3d, a sheep was roasted, or rather burnt, nearest to Bankside, over a charcoal fire, in a large iron pan. The admission to the booth where this culinary skill was displayed, was sixpence each. There was also two swings on the ice, which met with a few customers; there was a barge almost on one side, near the centre arch of London bridge, fixed in the ice; it was taken possession of by a party with a fiddler; they hoisted a flag, and made merry; others did the same; but the ice being so rugged and dangerous nearer the bridge, few ventured to the edge; some however did, and even got on the starlings of the centre arch, although it was covered with ice like glass; two of them, however, paid for their temerity, by slipping off, and were with much difficulty saved; after this others ventured on the same expedition, to write their names and date under the arch. Skaiting was impossible, it was so very rough; here and there a small

slide was made, but the masses which had been united were composed of large lumps of snow frozen together; in many places they had only joined at the top; and when they were broken through, were really dreadful to look at. On this day (the third) a plumber named Davis, attempting to cross near Blackfriar's-bridge with some lead in his hand, sunk between two masses as above described, and rose no more. Every hour increasing the numbers of visitants and amusements, on the 5th the newspapers began to warn the people of the danger of a sudden thaw, upon the then state of the tide, and the Lord Mayor also issued orders for all booths to be struck on the Saturday evening; in consequence many had withdrawn, though several remained to a very late hour. On Sunday morning February the 6th, at two o'clock in the morning on the flowing of the tide, a dreadful explosion took place, and those who had not paid attention to the Lord Mayor's orders, or the caution given by others, shared a fate that few pitied, although, as fortune would have it, not a single person was lost: nothing could describe the crush; in a moment every thing flew the same way as if a sudden blast of gunpowder had exploded. Barges, lighters, wherries, and every kind of vessel on the Thames was dashed to pieces; several barges lying off Queenhithe, Paul's Wharf, and the Three Cranes, were broken in two; their sides crushed in, and the immense large piles, full 18 inches square, that they were fastened to, were snapped as short as a match, and splintered to bits. Mr. Lawrence of the Feathers, in Timber-street, Queenhithe, had erected a booth opposite Broken wharf, for the accommodation of the curious. At nine o'clock at night he left it to the care of two men, taking away all the spirits and liquors, except what little he left for the two men for their own use; when the explosion took place at two o'clock the booth was hurried along with the quickness of lightning towards Blackfriar's-bridge. There were seven men in the booth at the time, and in their alarm

at the violence of their progress, they neglected the fire and candles, which communicated with the covering, which had cost 40*l.*, being a very large tarpauling, and set it instantly on fire. They succeeded in getting into a lighter which had broken from its moorings ; but immediately after this, it was dashed to pieces against the arch of Blackfriar's-bridge. The poor fellows, with difficulty, saved themselves, by getting hold of the balustrade, five of them reached Puddle-dock, and the other two a barge, after being nearly lost. The Thames, at nine o'clock, resembled the desolate prospect of the northern seas, wrecks, and masses of ice floating, and driving about in the greatest fury : every thing left of the fair was vanished. We have preserved the prospect of the fair, by a minute sketch, or bird's-eye view, between the bridges, of every path and pastime that could be observed, though many, of course, escaped our notice.

Among the casualties on the river, on Friday, was one in which the interposition of Providence was most strikingly manifested. About five o'clock, three persons, an old man and two lads, having ventured on a piece of ice, above London-bridge, it suddenly detached itself from the main body, and was carried by the tide through one of the arches. The persons on the ice, who laid themselves down for safety, were observed by the boatmen at Billingsgate, who, with laudable activity, put off to their assistance, and rescued them from their impending danger. One of them was able to walk, but the other two were carried, in a state of insensibility, to a public house, where they received every attention their situation required.

Friday a fair was held upon the ice at Chiswick. A great number of booths and shows of every description, were splendidly fitted up on the Thames.

On Saturday, a fisherman's boy, of the name of Carter, incautiously ventured, at low water, on a large sheet of ice, near

Westminster-bridge, which, from the turning of the tide and the thaw, suddenly separated from the side and carried him up the middle of the river, towards Milbank, where his cries attracted the notice of a waterman, who put off to his assistance, and fortunately, by the application of his oars, relieved him from his perilous situation.

Having given a list of many severe frosts, in the second volume of our Work, page 272, we shall endeavour to give the whole that has ever frozen the Thames over, from the earliest period, that we have not noticed there.

The first that appears on record, is in the year 250, the Thames was frozen over nine weeks.

In 695, the Thames was frozen for six weeks, and booths built upon it.

In 923, the Thames was frozen over for thirteen weeks.

In 998, the Thames was frozen for five weeks.

In 1063, the Thames was frozen for fourteen weeks.

In 1434, the Thames was frozen from November 24th to February 10th; it was frozen below bridge to Gravesend.

Hollinshed informs us, " that in 1655, the one and twentieth of December began a frost, which continued so extremlie, that on new year's euen, people went over, and amongst the Thames on the ice, from London-bridge to Westminster. Some plaied at the foot ball, as boldlie there, as if it had been on the drie land; diuerse of the court shot daily at pricks, set upon the Thames, and the people, both men and women, went on the Thames, in greater numbers, than in anie street of the citie of London. On the 31. daie of Januarie, at night, it began to thaw, and on the fift daie was no ice to be seen, between London-bridge and Lambeth; which sudden thaw caused great floods and high waters, that bare down bridges and houses, and drowned manie people in England, especallie in Yorkshire. *Owes bridge* was borne awaie with others."

In 1708-9, there was a severe frost, and the Thames was

frozen over; but it did not last longer at that time than the tide ran down, but the ice was so thick, that it stopped at London-bridge, and reached as far as the Temple, where people passed over: it lasted from December to March.

In 1715-16, was a great frost, in which the Thames was frozen over, for several miles, when booths and streets were made on the ice, and an ox roasted, &c.

In 1739-40, a severe frost commenced, December 24, and continued for nine weeks, or 103 days, when a great many booths were erected on the Thames, and multitudes of people dwelt on it.

In 1762-3, the frost set in on the 25th December, and continued with little intermission, till the 29th of January. The Thames was so frozen as to bear carriages.

In 1788-9, was a severe frost, in which was a fair on the Thames, and crossings made opposite the Custom-house, the Tower, Execution-dock, Putney, Brentford, &c. and lasted from November 1788, to January 1789.

SLEEP-WALKERS AND DREAMERS.

SOMNAMBULISM differs from being awake, by a suspension of the senses, since the sleep-walker neither sees, hears, nor tastes, neither feels, nor perceives any objects that are about him. He, nevertheless, acts in the same manner as if he was awake; very often does so much better, with more address, and with more activity.

The first is an account of the case of a cataleptic and a sleep-walker, sent by the Royal Academy of Montpellier to that of Paris, as the most remarkable that had ever been known.

A maid, about 20 years of age, her complexion pale, her extremities always cold, her temper remarkably timorous, and so tender, as to be extremely sensible of the slightest injury, being, in January 1737, brought by some trouble, into a catalepsy, was received into the hospital. Her fits,

which were more regular and frequent at the beginning than the end of the month, lasted, some a quarter of an hour, some one, two, three hours, or more.

In April following, this disorder was complicated with another, no less extraordinary, resembling that of persons who walk in their sleep, which intermitting for some months, returned every winter, from 1737 to 1745.

The physician who constantly attended her, when her fits were longest and most frequent, observed her pulse to be naturally very weak, and so slow, that it did not beat more than 50 times a minute; her blood was so viscid, that upon opening a vein, it came away by drops; the strongest purgative medicines had little or no effect; she appeared constantly dejected. The fit was immediately preceded by a heat and flushing in her face, and a heavy pain in her head, from both which she found herself relieved after her cataleptic sleep.

These fits seized her suddenly, sometimes in bed, when it was scarce perceived, except by her not answering, her respiration being to appearance totally suppressed, and her pulse more languid than before; sometimes in a posture as she was doing her work, or going up stairs, and she always continued in the same, during the whole fit, (even one leg raised to mount the next step); her arms or head being put into any posture, she continued it, provided the equilibrium of the body was maintained. She had no sensible motion, either voluntary or natural, except that of the heart and arteries, which was scarce to be discerned.

From these fits she always recovered by the mere efforts of nature; no application to the senses producing any tokens of sensibility, or in the least shortening the fit. The first symptoms of her revival were gaping and stretching, and she had no idea of any circumstance that happened during her fit, except from the pain of an uneasy posture, or some slight wound, given in order to rouse her.

Thus far the catalepsy: the complicated disorder into

which it degenerated in April 1737, may be divided into three stages. The first and last were a true catalepsy, as before described; the interval between them, which sometimes lasted a whole day, was called by the persons who attended her, the live fit, (*accident vive*), as the others were distinguished by the name of the dead fits.

On the 5th of April, 1737, the physician found her confined to her bed by a great weakness, and the pain in her head; she was soon after seized with a cataleptic fit, which went off in about six minutes, as appeared by her gaping, stretching, and raising herself into a posture; she began to speak with a vivacity unusual at other times. Her discourse seemed to have some connexion with what she had said in a like fit on the preceding day, when she repeated a kind of catechism she had learned, making moral and abusive applications of it to the persons in the house, whom she characterised by fictitious names. Her eyes were open, and she used proper looks and gestures, and every other sign of being awake, although she was in the deepest sleep, as appears by the following experiments.

A blow was given her on the face, with the palm of the hand, a finger was suddenly pushed so near her eye, as to touch the corner, and a wax candle also held so near it as to singe the lashes; a person suddenly started into the room, screamed as loud as he could in her ear; brandy and sal ammoniac were put into her eyes and mouth, *Spanish* snuff was put up her nostrils, she was pricked with a needle, in several places, and the joints of her fingers were distorted, without producing the least sign of sensibility, or interrupting her discourse. Soon after, she spoke with great fluency and cheerfulness; she sung, and burst out into frequent fits of laughter, making efforts to get out of bed, which at length she effected, dancing and shewing other demonstrations of joy. She walked nimbly round the room, avoiding all other beds, chairs, &c. and returned to her bed, covered herself

up, and soon after was cataleptic. In less than a quarter of an hour the fit went off, and she awoke as out of a profound sleep, not knowing what had passed; but by observing the looks of so many about her, that she had been in a fit, she was greatly confused, and wept the rest of the day.

Narcotics were used, and her disorder, though it returned every winter, seemed to abate; in 1746, the cataleptic fit did not precede the other, nor were her senses so totally suspended, which she attributed to the use of preparations of steel. (The cold bath was made use of, without success; on which this writer observes, that, though it be esteemed a specific against walking in the sleep, it must also have been ineffectual, with respect to the man mentioned by *Adrianus Almanus*, because in his fits, he would swim over the river Seine, without waking).

The physician who relates this extraordinary case, appeals for the truth of the facts, to several of the faculty, who were witnesses of them at his request, declaring, that in his opinion, no single testimony was sufficient to render them credible; so sudden and total a suspension, and restoration of the sensitive faculties; the great vivacity of imagination, and the facility of producing voluntary motion during the fit, being wholly unaccountable from any principles hitherto known.

Gent. Mag. 1747, p. 158.



A SLEEP-WALKER.

A remarkable instance of a sleep-walker was well authenticated, during the course of the month of August 1806. Between eleven and twelve o'clock, a boy who serves the bricklayers in Maidstone, got out of bed in his sleep, went through a casement, and walked over the ridges of several houses, after which he returned, and came in at the same window, where he awaked in great terror, occasioned by a

fall on his entrance; this extraordinary circumstance happened in sight of several spectators, one of whom not knowing him to be in a dormant state, had in contemplation a design of firing at him with a gun, from a conclusion that he intended to break into some house; but seeing him return, without any attempt to effect such a purpose, both parties thought themselves happy at the interposition of providence, to prevent so dreadful a catastrophe.

Gent. Mag. 1786, p. 712.



John Poultney, born in Little Sheepy in Leicestershire, was herein remarkable, that in his sleep he did usually rise out of his bed, dress himself, open the doors, walk round about the fields, and return to his bed not wakened; sometimes he would rise in his sleep, take a staff, fork, or any other weapon that was next his hand, and therewith lay about him, now striking, now defending himself, as if he were then encountered or charged with an adversary, not knowing, being awaked, what had passed. He afterwards went to sea with the famous but unfortunate Sir Hugh Willoughby, Knight, and was, together with all the fleet, frozen to death in the North-East passage about Nova Zembla.

Burton's Leicestershire, p. 254. *Fuller's Worthies*, Wanley, &c.



SLEEPING PREACHER.

Although, in modern times, a SLEEPING PREACHER is no longer considered a novelty, we will present our readers with the following ancient, and curious character, taken from Stow's Chronicle, continued by Howes, sub. anno. 1605.

Richard Haydocke, of New College in Oxford, a professed physician, having an impediment in his daily speech, was

frequently, when in bed, at night, overheard by several persons, to preach in a good and distinct delivery. Surprized at this, they often called him, but received no answer; on which they used to approach his bed and endeavour to awake him, by pulling him by the hands and feet; notwithstanding this, he still proceeded smoothly on, with a steady countenance, till he had finished his sermon. This singular incident soon became public, and, at last reached the royal ear. His Majesty then commanded the sleeping preacher to be brought to court, and anxious to witness the truth of the report, sat up with him most part of the night to mark the result. After watching some time, the sleeper began to pray, after which, he pronounced a text, made his divisions, and proceeded accordingly, exclaiming against the Pope, against the cross in baptism, and against the last canons of the church of England. His sermon being ended, he continued sleeping, on which the King, who had narrowly watched him, departed. A few days after he sent for Haydocke, and after some conference, discovered that he was an impostor. Unable to justify himself, or to conceal the truth, he acknowledged his abuse unto God, his Majesty, and to the world, and threw himself upon the mercy of the King. The latter pardoned him on the conditions that he should, in all places, confess his deception before the people, who considered him as a person inspired.

EXTRAORDINARY DEATH OF
JOHN HINCKLEY, ESQ.

THIS gentleman, who was about 50 years of age, of a most eccentric character, kept a set of chambers at No. 9, two pair of stairs, in Gray's-inn-square, where he resided; but not having been seen since the early part of September, he was at length found dead, on Friday evening, December 2,

by maggots," that his death seemed inevitable.—After clearing away, as well as they were able, these shocking vermin, those who found Page conveyed him to Osburnby, and a surgeon was immediately procured, who declared that his body was in such a state, that dressing it must be little short of instantaneous death; and in fact the man did survive the operation but a few hours.—When first found, and again when examined by the surgeon, he presented a sight loathsome in the extreme; white maggots of enormous size were crawling in and upon his body, which they had most shockingly mangled, and the removing of the external ones served only to render the sight more horrid.—The coroner's inquest sat upon the body, Monday afternoon, June 27, and their verdict was, "*Eaten to death by maggots.*"

We have frequently heard of persons being eaten to death by worms—as Herod, Scylla, and others—but these, happening at so remote a period, may at this time, perhaps serve only to afford food for the sceptic.—The case of this man exceeds the shocking death of Mr. Hinckley, and truly presents a phenomenon in our annals, that scarcely admits a parallel.

DREADFUL

FIRE IN THE AMERICAN THEATRE.

THE following account of the accident at Richmond theatre, in America, when 150 persons perished, December 28, 1811, is extracted from the Richmond Enquirer, of December 29.

"In the whole course of our existence, we have never taken our pen under a deeper gloom than we feel at this moment. It falls to our lot to record one of the most distressing scenes which can happen in the whole circle of human affairs. The reader must excuse the incoherence of the narrative;

there is scarce a dry eye in this distracted city. Weep, my fellow citizens, for we have seen a night of woe, which scarce any eye had seen, or ear hath heard, and no tongue can adequately tell.

"How can we describe the scene? No pen can paint it, no imagination can conceive it. A whole theatre wrapt in flames—a gay and animated assembly suddenly thrown on the very verge of the grave—many of them, oh! how many, precipitated in a moment into eternity—youth and beauty, and old age, and genius, overwhelmed in one promiscuous ruin! shrieks, groans, and human agony in every shape—this is the heart-rending scene that we are called upon to describe.—We sink under the effort. Reader! excuse our feelings, for they are the feelings of a whole city.

"Let us collect our ideas as well as we can. On Thursday night, a new play and a new after-piece were played for the benefit of Mr. Place. Crowds swarmed to the theatre—it was the fullest house this season, there was not less than 600 present. The play went off—the pantomime began, the first act was over. The whole scene was before us—and all around us was mirth and festivity. O God! what a terrible revolution did one minute produce! The curtain rose on the second act of the pantomime—the orchestra was in full chorus, and Mr. West came on to open the scene—when sparks of fire began to fall on the back part of the stage, and Mr. Robertson came out, in unutterable distress, waved his hand to the ceiling, and uttered these appalling words—"the house is on fire." His hand was immediately stretched forth to the persons in the stage box, to help them on the stage, and aid their retreat in that direction.—This was all we caught of the stage, The cry of *fire! fire!* passed with electric velocity through the house—every one flew from their seats to gain the lobbies and stairs.

"The scene baffles all description. The most heart-piercing

cries pervaded the house, "Save me, save me." Wives asking for their husbands, females and children shrieking, while the gathering element came rolling on its curling flames and columns of smoke—threatening to devour every human being in the building. Many were trod under foot—several were thrown back from the windows, who were struggling to leap. The stair-ways were immediately blocked up—the throng was so great, that many were raised several feet over the heads of the rest—the smoke threatened an instant suffocation. We cannot dwell on this picture. We saw it—we felt it—like others, we gave up ourselves for lost—we cannot depict it.—Many leaped from the windows of the first story, and were saved—children and females, and men of all descriptions, were seen to precipitate themselves to the ground—most of these escaped; though several of them with broken legs and thighs, and hideous contusions. Most, if not all, who were in the pit escaped. Mr. Taylor, the last of the musicians who quitted the orchestra, finding his escape by the back way cut off, leaped into the pit, whence he entered the semicircular avenue which leads to the door of the theatre, and found it nearly empty. He was the last that escaped from the pit! how melancholy, that many who were in the boxes, above and below, pushed for the lobbies—many, as has been said, escaped through the windows—but the most of them had no other resource than to descend the stairs, many escaped in that way—but so great was the pressure, that they retarded each other, until the devouring element approached to sweep them into eternity. Several who even emerged from the building, were so much scorched, that they have since perished—some even jumped from the second window—some others have been dreadfully burnt.

"The fire spread with rapidity almost beyond example.—Within ten minutes after it caught, the whole house was wrapt in flames. Most of the coloured people, who were in a gallery, escaped through the stairs, cut off from the rest of

the house—some have, no doubt, fallen victims. The pit and boxes had but one common avenue, through which the whole crowd escaped, and those also who leaped through the windows.

“ But the scene which ensued, it is impossible to paint—Women with dishevelled hair, fathers and mothers shrieking out for their children, husbands for their wives, brothers for their sisters, filled the whole area on the outside of the building. A few who had escaped, plunged again into the flames to save some dear object of their regard, and there perished. The Governor, perhaps, shared this melancholy fate. Others were frantic, and would have rushed to destruction, but for the hand of a friend. The bells tolled—Almost the whole town rushed to the fatal spot.

“ The flame must have been caught by the scenery, from some light behind. Robertson saw it, when it was no longer than his arm—Young saw it on the roof, when it first burst through. Every article of the theatre was consumed, as well as the dwelling house next to it. But what is wealth, in comparison of the valuable lives which have gone for ever? The whole town is shrouded in woe.—Heads of families extinguished for ever; many and many is the house, in which a chasm has been made, that can never be filled up.”

The following is an extract of a letter, dated Richmond, (Virginia) December 28, relative to the late fire in the theatre at that place :—“ Many more human skulls have been found than we yet know of persons missing; it is therefore feared many strangers were in the theatre. Almost every person who escaped, was in some way wounded. The theatre was badly constructed: there was only one door for the pit and first and second row of boxes. More than half of those present, who survived, leaped from the windows; in doing which, however, others were mortally wounded. The windows of the first row of boxes were about 15 feet, those of the second, 24 feet from the ground. On the day following the

dreadful scene at the theatre at Richmond, the Common Council passed an order for collecting the remains of the sufferers, and depositing them in urns or coffins, (except such as should be claimed by their relatives), to be removed, with all proper respect and solemnity, to the burying-ground, where suitable monuments are to be erected, and inscriptions made, to preserve the remembrance of the afflicting event. Moreover, recommending the suspension of all business for 48 hours; and further, prohibiting any person, under heavy penalties, from exhibiting any public show or spectacle, or opening any public dancing assembly, within the city, for four months. The unclaimed remains of upwards of 50 of the victims of the flames in Richmond, were deposited in two large boxes, and buried in the pit of the theatre. The citizens have purchased the ground on which the theatre stood, for the purpose of erecting a church in its stead, and more than 2000 dollars have been subscribed. Among the number who so awfully perished, it is said, there were not six of the poor class."

The following is an extract of another letter, from a gentleman in Richmond, to his friend in Boston. "I have just conversed with a young gentleman, who was one of the last that got out of the house, before the roof fell in: he says, he saw, he thinks, 50 ladies lying dead, some naked, others nearly so, and horribly mangled and crushed, beyond all power of description. Many ladies were thrust from the second story window, by men who followed them themselves; some were seen jumping out, with ladies in their arms. The good Governor bore his lady out safe, and boldly returned to rescue his son, but alas! in vain; his remains I saw taken from the ruins, (they were designated by a stock-buckle that he wore),—a crisp lump. The brave Lieutenant Gibbon was enamoured of a young lady, the first ornament of her sex, Miss Sally Conyers; he got out; but, finding that she had not escaped, was heard to say, "I'll bring her out, or

perish in the attempt." He rushed in, and was afterwards seen with the lady in his arms ; when the wall fell, and closed the scene for ever on that ill-fated pair ! I have not heard of any New England people among the deaths. It is judged that 150 perished."

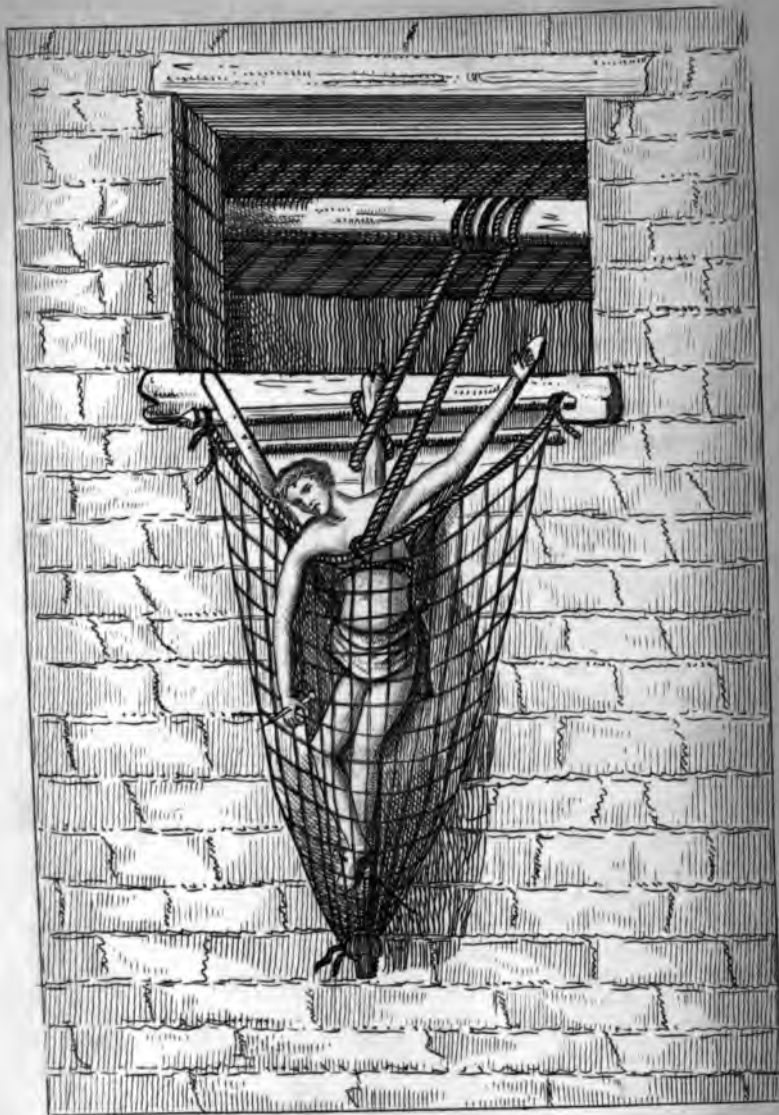
**SINGULAR NARRATIVE OF THE CRUCIFIXION OF
MATTHEW LOVAT,
EXECUTED BY HIS OWN HANDS, AT VENICE, IN THE MONTH
OF JULY, 1805.**

**ORIGINALLY COMMUNICATED TO THE PUBLIC, BY
CESAR RUGGIERI, M. D. PROFESSOR OF CLINICAL SURGERY
AT VENICE, IN A LETTER TO A MEDICAL FRIEND.**

(Copied, by permission, from the Translation, inserted, in that valuable
Publication, *The PAMPHLETEER*, published by
Mr. Valpy, Took's-court, Chancery-lane.)

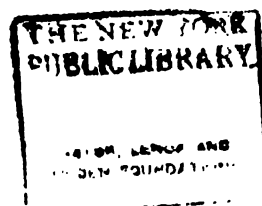
" I KEEP my promise, my dear friend, and hereby transmit you an account of the crucifixion of Matthew Lovat, executed upon his own person, on the morning of the 19th of July, 1805. He was 46 years of age when he committed this act of pious suicide. His father's name was Mark ; and he himself was surnamed Casale, from the place of his birth, which was a hamlet belonging to the parish of Soldo, in the territory of Belluno.

" Before entering upon the details of this strange act of insanity, I must mention some circumstances connected with the earlier part of his life, which will present to you a clear view of his condition and character, both physical and moral. Born of poor parents, employed in the coarsest and most laborious works of husbandry, and fixed to a place, which removed him from almost all society, you may judge what was the nature of his education and habits. In these circumstances, it happened that his imagination was so



The self Crucifixion of
MATTHEW LOVAT,
at Venice. July. 1865.

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could remain concealed. The whole village resounded with the fame of Matthew's exploit, and every body expressed astonishment at his speedy cure, without the aid of a professional person. But he himself had not anticipated the species of celebrity, which the knowledge of his expert operation was to procure for him; and not being able to withstand the bitter jokes which all the inhabitants of the village, and particularly the young people, heaped upon him; he kept himself shut up in his house, from which he did not venture for some time, not even to go to mass. At length, on the 13th of November, in the same year, he came to the resolution of going to Venice, to dwell with a younger brother, named Angelo, who was employed by the house of Palatini, gold-refiners, in Biri, in the street called *Le Cordoni*. He having no accommodation for him, conducted Matthew to the house of a widow, the relict of Andrew Osgualda, who supplied him with a bed. She also lived in Biri, in the street called *Le Vido*, No. 5775. He lodged with this woman until the 21st of September, in the following year, working assiduously at his trade, in the employment of a person near the hospital, and without exhibiting any signs of madness. But on the above-mentioned day, having made an attempt to crucify himself, in the middle of the street, called the Cross of Biri, upon a frame, which he had constructed of the timber of his bed, the widow Osgualda dismissed him, lest he should perform any similar act of insanity in her apartments. On this occasion, he was prevented from accomplishing his purpose, by several people, who came upon him just as he was driving the nail into his left foot. Being interrogated repeatedly, as to the motive which had induced him to attempt self-crucifixion, he maintained an obstinate silence; or once only said to his brother, that that day was the festival of St. Matthew, and that he could give no farther explanation. Some days after this affair, he set out for his own country, where he remained

a certain time ; he afterwards returned to Venice, and settled himself with Martin Murzani, a shoemaker, who lived near the street of the Holy Apostles. In the month of May, 1805, he changed his shop, and entered into that of Lorenzo della Mona, in the street Senze Saint Marcilian ; and to be nearer the place of his employment, he hired, in the beginning of the following July, a room in the third floor of a house, occupied by Valentia Laecheta, situated near the church of St. Alvise, in the street Delle Monache, No. 2888 ; and up to this date, he was perfectly tranquil.

“ But scarcely was he established in this new abode, when his old ideas of crucifixion laid hold of him again. He wrought a little every day, in forming the instrument of his torture, and provided himself with the necessary articles of nails, ropes, bands, the crown of thorns, &c. As he foresaw it would be extremely difficult to fasten himself securely upon the cross, he made a net of small cords, capable of supporting his weight, in case he should happen to disengage himself from it. This net, he secured at the bottom, by fastening it in a knot, at the lower extremity of the perpendicular beam, a little below the bracket, designed to support his feet, and the other end was stretched to the extremities of the transverse spar, which formed the arms of the cross, so that it had the appearance in front, of a purse turned upside down. From the middle of the upper extremity of the net, thus placed, proceeded one rope, and from the point at which the two spars, forming the cross, intersected each other, a second rope proceeded, both of which were firmly tied to a beam, in the inside of the chamber, immediately above the window, of which the parapet was very low, and the length of these ropes was just sufficient to allow the cross to rest horizontally upon the floor of the apartment.

“ These cruel preparations being ended, Matthew proceeded to crown himself with thorns ; of which two or three pierced

the skin which covers the forehead ; next, with a white handkerchief, bound round his loins and thighs, he covered the place, formerly occupied by the parts of which he had deprived himself, leaving the rest of his body bare. Then passing his legs between the net and the cross, seating himself upon it, he took one of the nails destined for his hands, of which the point was smooth and sharp, and introducing it into the palm of the left, he drove it, by striking its head on the floor, until the half of it appeared through the back of the hand. He then adjusted his feet to the bracket which had been prepared to receive them, the right over the left ; and taking a nail, five French inches and a half long, of which the point was also polished and sharp, and placing it on the upper foot, with his left hand, he drove it with a mallet, which he held in his right, until it not only penetrated both his feet, but entering the hole prepared for it in the bracket, made its way so far through the tree of the cross, as to fasten the victim firmly to it. He planted the third nail in his right hand, as he had managed with regard to the left, and having bound himself by the middle to the perpendicular of the cross, by a cord, which he had previously stretched under him, he set about inflicting *the wound in the side*, with a cobbler's knife, which he had placed by him for the operation. It did not occur to him, however, at the moment, that the wound ought to be in the right side, and not in the left, and the cavity of the breast, and not the hypocondre, where he inflicted it. He struck himself transversely, two inches below the left hypocondre, towards the internal angle of the abdominal cavity, without, however, injuring the parts which this cavity contains. Whether fear checked his hand, or whether he intended to plunge the instrument to a great depth, by avoiding the hard and resisting parts, it is not easy to determine ; but there were observed in the neighbourhood of the wound, several scratches across his body, which scarcely divided

the skin. My own opinion is, that he had scratched his side in this manner, when probing for a place that would present no obstacles to his knife, which according to Matthew Lovat, represented *the spear of the passion*.

"These bloody operations being concluded, it was now necessary, in order to complete the execution of the whole plan which he had conceived, that Matthew should exhibit himself upon the cross, to the eyes of the public; and he realised this part of it, in the following way: The cross was laid horizontally on the floor, its lower extremity resting upon the parapet of the window, which I have already said was very low; so raising himself up, by pressing upon the points of his fingers, (for the nails did not allow him to use his whole hand, either open or closed), he made several springs forward, until the portion of the cross, which was protruded over the parapet, over-balancing what was within the chamber, the whole frame, with the poor fanatic upon it, darted out of the window, and remained suspended outside of the house, by the ropes, which were secured to the beam on the inside. In this predicament, Lovat stretched his hands to the extremities of the transverse beam, which formed the arms of the cross, to insert the nails into the holes which had been prepared for them; but whether it was out of his power to fix both, or whether he was obliged to use the right in some concluding operation is unknown; the fact is, that when he was seen by the people who passed in the street, he was suspended under the window, with only his left hand nailed to the cross, while his right hung parallel to his body, on the outside of the net. It was eight o'clock in the morning. As soon as he was perceived, some humane people ran up stairs, disengaged him from the cross, and put him to bed. A surgeon of the neighbourhood was called, who made them plunge his feet into water, and introduced tow, by way of caddis, into the wound of the hypocondre, which he assured them did not penetrate into the cavity; and after

having prescribed some cordial, instantly took his departure.

"It happened that some business, connected with my profession, had called me to the spot; and having heard what had taken place, I instantly repaired to the lodgings of Lovat, to witness, with my own eyes, a fact which appeared to exceed all belief; and when I arrived there, in company with the surgeon Paganoni, I actually beheld him wounded in the manner I have described above. His feet, from which there had issued but a small quantity of blood, were still in water; his eyes were shut; he made no reply to the questions which were addressed to him; his pulse was convulsive, respiration had become difficult; his situation, in short, demanded the most prompt relief and assistance that could be administered. Accordingly, with the permission of the Director of the Police of the Royal Canal, who had come to take cognizance of what had happened, I made the patient be conveyed by water, to the Imperial Clyrical School, established at the hospital of St. Luke and St. John, and entrusted to my care. During the passage, the only thing he said was to his brother Angelo, who accompanied him in the boat, and was lamenting his extravagance, which was, "*Alas, I am very unfortunate.*" When we got to the hospital, I proceeded to a fresh examination of his wounds, which confirmed every thing that I had described to you. It was perfectly ascertained that the nails had entered by the palm of the hands, and gone out at the back, making their way between the bones of the metacarpus, and without inflicting any injury upon them: that the nail which wounded the feet, had entered first the right foot, between the second and third bones of the metatarsus, towards their posterior extremity; and then the left, between the first and second of the same bones, the latter of which it had laid bare and grazed; and lastly, that the wound of the hypocondre penetrated to the point of the

cavity; and such was the description, which I submitted to the proper authorities. The wound of the hypocondre was treated with the first intention, as there was no need of having recourse to suture of the belly. I satisfied myself with placing the patient in an easy position, who moreover, was very tranquil, and executed with the greatest docility, every thing that I prescribed to him.

“ The wounds in the extremities were treated, as a great irritability of the parts required, with emollients and sedatives. I employed, for this purpose, a little of the oil of sweet almonds, quite fresh, and a very simple poultice of bread and milk, in which were wrapped up his feet, a great part of his legs, and almost the half of his fore-arms; and this application was renewed several times a day.

“ Some ounces of the mixture *Cardiaca oppiata*, which were taken at intervals, and a little very weak lemonade, were the only remedies which I made him take internally, during the first six days. The diet was not very severe during the first days, and with the exception of a slight meteorism of the lower belly, which very soon yielded to dry fomentation, there did not happen the most trifling accident in the whole course of the illness. On the fifth day, the wounds in the extremities suppurated, with a slight redness in their circumference; and on the eighth, that of the hypocondre was perfectly healed. The patient never spoke: always *sombre* and shut up in himself, his eyes were almost constantly closed. I interrogated him several times, relative to the motive which had induced him to crucify himself, and he always made me this answer: “ *The pride of man must be mortified, it must expire on the cross.*” Thinking that he might be restrained by the presence of my pupils, I returned repeatedly to the subject when with him alone, and he always answered me in the same terms. He was, in fact, so deeply persuaded that the Supreme Will had imposed upon him the obligation of dying upon the cross, that he wished to

inform the Tribunal of Justice of the destiny which it behoved him to fulfil, with the view of preventing all suspicion, that his death might have been the work of any other hand than his own. With this in prospect, and long before his martyrdom, he committed his ideas to a slip of paper, which I have still in my possession. It is written with his own hand, and in a style and character, such as you would expect from his education, and the disorder of his mind. During the first days, he did not complain of pain ; but on the morning of the eighth, having asked him if he had slept in the night, he told me he had not, that he had endured very acute pains in his left hand, and both his feet, and that he was still suffering a great deal. I then put several other questions to him, which he answered very judiciously ; but the following day, he was again absorbed in his reveries ; and it was with the greatest difficulty that I could obtain from him any reply to my enquiries respecting his sleep, and state of his wounds.

“ I observed constantly, and I made my pupils remark it also, that when the patient enjoyed lucid intervals, he experienced in the region of the wounds, pains, more or less severe, according to the state of his parts affected. It was of these lucid moments that I took advantage, to draw from him the notions relative to his crucifixion, which you have just read.

“ Scarcely was he able to support in his hand the weight of a book, when he took the prayer book, and read it all day long. On the first day of August, all his wounds were completely cured ; and as he felt no pain or difficulty in moving his hands and feet, he expressed a wish to go out of the hospital, that he might not, as he said, eat the bread of idleness. This request being denied to him, he passed a whole day without taking any food ; and finding that his clothes were kept from him, he set out one afternoon in his shirt, but was soon brought back by the servants. The Board

of Police being informed of the cure of this unhappy man, very wisely gave orders that he should be conveyed to the Lunatic Asylum, established at St. Servolo.

“The speedy and complete cure which was effected on this person, as well as the constancy with which he persevered in his plan of his crucifixion, and the firmness which he displayed in the execution of it, cannot be ascribed to any other cause, than the state of insanity in which he was habitually plunged. You know, my dear and learned friend, that madmen possess very little sensation, or muscular irritability; a characteristic of insanity, which may be accounted for upon the following principles. In the first place, their minds being intensely fixed upon one, or a very small number of ideas, are no longer susceptible of impressions from any other object: secondly, from the imperfection of their nerves: and lastly, from the deficiency of the nervous fluid, which ought to circulate in these canals of sensation. Such is nearly the opinion of all physiologists on this subject, not excepting the ingenious Darwin, who accounts for the astonishing firmness with which martyrs of all persecuted religions have braved torment and death, by alleging, that their sensitive powers were totally absorbed in the contemplation of the celestial delights, which had been promised to them. [*Darwin's Diseases of the Will*, sect. 34]. Besides, Matthew Lovat appeared to me, to be affected with a leprous habit, nay, I am certain, he was affected with the leprosy; and to this malady must be ascribed the greatest part of his insensibility. It is well known, that men who are afflicted with this distemper, have borne with indifference the application of fire-buttons, and other tortures, which are commonly resorted to, in order to rouse them from their lethargic condition. Moreover, it uniformly happened, as I mentioned above, that as often as Lovat could remove from his mind the idea which was habitually impressed upon it, and of course reasoned correctly, he became sensible to pain;

whence we may conclude, that in these lucid moments the nervous system discharged its proper functions, and carried to the brain every impression that was made on its minutest parts.

“That Matthew Lovat should have made an attempt upon his life, contains nothing surprising ; but it is certainly very astonishing, that he should have turned his imagination to discover methods of tormenting himself before he should give up the ghost. It is well known, that all suicides study the easiest and most instantaneous death possible, because they commonly shrink from pain ; we must therefore conclude, that the notions of suffering and of crucifixion, did not present themselves to the mind of Lovat, as having any necessary connection, or that he actually meant to realize at his death, all the circumstances of martyrdom, and to expire in agony.

“The history of this man would not be complete, were I to keep from your knowledge, a letter which the religious father Louis Portalupi, Monk of the Order of St. Jean de Dieu, a celebrated physician and surgeon, belonging to the hospital of St. Servolo, had the goodness to write me, at the time he resided there, and which, although short, will give the details which relate to this singular madman, up to the moment of his death. The following is an exact copy.

“Matthew Lovat, surnamed Casale, was brought to the Lunatic Asylum of St. Servolo on the 20th of August, 1805. He was tranquil and obedient the first eight days ; but after that time, he became taciturn, and refused every species of meat and drink. Force and persuasion were employed in vain ; and it was impossible to make him swallow even a drop of water, during six successive days. In this interval, we had recourse to nutritive baths, for which he did not express any aversion. Towards the morning of the seventh day, being importuned by another madman, he consented to take a little nourishment. He continued to eat

about fifteen days, and then resumed his fast, which he prolonged during eleven. The nutritive washings were again employed, but they could be used only once a day. In the course of these eleven days, he had no evacuation of the belly, and voided once about two pounds of urine. Notwithstanding this disorder in the whole animal economy, his constitution did not appear shaken, and his strength and outward appearance remained the same.

“The severe facts were repeated several times, and always with equal success; and were of longer or shorter duration, the most protracted, however, not exceeding twelve days.

“In January, 1806, there appeared in him some symptoms of consumption,—a low pulse, diminution of strength, dry tongue, &c.; they were removed, however, by means of cordials, in the space of five days. Towards the middle of February, his countenance became oedematous; he very seldom voided urine, and he had an occasional cough, with purulent spittings. The remedies which the case required were resorted to; his health appeared to be re-established, and during the whole course of the month, he exhibited no symptoms of breast complaints. There was observed in him a very singular trait of insanity: he would remain immoveable, exposed to the whole heat of the sun, until the skin of his face began to peel off, and it was necessary to employ force to drag him into the shade.”

“On the second day of April, he fell very unwell, the skin returned to his face, and the lower extremities: he was attacked with a frequent cough, which, however, disappeared on the sixth. At this date, an obvious labouring in his breast was observed, the pulse was very low; at length, on the morning of the eighth, he expired, after a short struggle.”

“If there remain with you any doubt relative to the details of the crucifixion of Matthew Levat, which I have just





JOHN BIGGS,
The Denton Hermit.

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EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURE

OF

DAVID LOWRIESTON and his NINE COMPANIONS, British seamen, on board the ACTIVE, South Sea whaler, who, in consequence of the wreck of that vessel, were left nearly four years on a desert island in the South Seas, from which they were at length providentially released, by the arrival of a British ship at the island, and conveyed to the British settlement of New South Wales, when *Lowrieston* returned to England.

The first account of the wonderful deliverance of these ten men, which came before the public, is the following letter, dated

“ *Sydney, New South Wales, Feb. 12, 1814.*

“ On Wednesday arrived from a sealing voyage, after a 16 months’ absence; the colonial schooner, Governor Bligh, Mr. Grono, master, with 14,000 seal skins, and about three tons of elephant oil.—This vessel brings from the west coast of New Zealand, a gang of men, consisting of ten persons, left by the brig Active, Captain Baker, so long ago as the 15th February 1809, in charge of Mr. David Lowrieston.—The Active went from hence on the 11th December 1808, and having landed her people on an island, about a mile and a half from the main of New Zealand, sailed again for Port Jackson, but doubtless perished by the way, and has never since been heard of. The people who were left, as above described, were reduced to the necessity of subsisting, for nearly four years, upon the seal, when in season, and at other times, upon a species of the fern, part of which they roasted or boiled, and other parts were obliged to be eat undressed, owing to a nausea it imbibed from any culinary process. They were left upon the small island with a very scanty allowance of provisions, and the vessel was to

came to Port Jackson for a further supply. They had a whale boat, and their only edged implements consisted of an axe, an adze, and a cooper's drawing knife. In a short time they procured 11,000 skins, part of which Mr. Grono has brought up. In hopes of finding upon the main, some succour which the small island did not afford, they went thither, but were nearly lost by the way, as some of the lower streaks of the boat were near falling out, owing, as was imagined, to the nails being of cast iron. On their safe arrival, however, they found an old boat on a beach, which, it subsequently appeared, had been left there by Mr. Grono, on a former voyage. With the aid of this additional boat, when both repaired, they projected an excursion towards some of the more frequented sealing places, and were on the point of setting out, when a tremendous hurricane, in one night, destroyed the boats, and put an end to their hope of relief. The only nutritive the place afforded, was a species of the fern root, resembling a yam when cut, and possessing some of the properties of the cassada. This they could only procure at a distance of six or seven miles from their hut, which was near the sea side, and had it been plentiful, would have been a desirable substitute for better diet; but it was unfortunately so sparingly scattered among other shrubs, as to be found with difficulty; and they solemnly affirm, that they have for a week at a time, had neither this nor any other food whatever. With the assistance of a canoc, made up of seal skins, a party visited their former island, and found their stacks of skins much injured by the weather, but did all they could for their preservation. This was their seal depôt, and out of their usual season, they now and then found a solitary straggler, in some instances, when they were so reduced by famine, as to be scarcely capable of securing those that Providence threw in their way. With their axe, adze, and drawing knife, they afterwards built a small boat, but with intense labour, as without saws, they could only

cut one board out of each tree ; the hoops upon their provision casks were beaten into nails ; and by the same patient and laborious process, they at length projected the building of a small vessel, and had provided 80 half inch boards for the purpose, all cut in the way above described. The fortunate accident of Mr. Grono's touching there, has, however, preserved them from further suffering and peril."

The circumstances of this extraordinary adventure, were fully developed on a trial at *Nisi Prius*, in the Court of Common Pleas, London, on Saturday, the 17th December, 1814, in the case of *Philips versus Champion*, upon an action brought by the owners of the vessel and cargo, to recover from the underwriters, who had insured them, and refused to pay, until the loss was ascertained. The ship had been missing these two years ; and although her total loss could admit of little or no doubt, the owners were never, 'till this time, enabled to substantiate the fact by positive proof, or *viva voce* witness.

Mr. SERJEANT BEST, in stating the case to the Court and Jury, told them, that amongst the witnesses he should this day adduce, there was one who would, in his own person, exemplify the romantic Adventures of *Robinson Crusoe*, by proving his residence, for four years, on a desolate island, in the dreary regions of the Pacific Ocean, far remote from all intercourse with civilized society,—fed only on the flesh of seals,—clad only with the skins of those animals,—and lodged only amongst rocks and caverns, until he was at length rescued from his hopeless exile, by the providential arrival of a British vessel in these solitary regions, through means of which, he was enabled to find his way once more to his native country, and to appear this day, as an instrument for obtaining justice to the cause of his ship's owners.

The ownership of the vessel having been proved to exist in the plaintiffs,

HENRY TURNBULL stated, that he had sailed as second mate on board the *ACTIVE*, from this country, in the month of September, 1808, and continued in the ship till 21st May, 1809: he then arrived in her at *Kent's Groupe*, a cluster of islands in the South Seas. Before they arrived at *Kent's Groupe*, they had explored several small islands in quest of seals, and touched another cluster of islands, called *Crow Islands*; and in the course of their researches, before they reached *Kent's Groupe*, they had got between 1200 and 2000 seal skins: he quitted the ship in a boat, with some of the crew, by order of his commander, to get some more seal skins for the voyage, and they proceeded to an island, called the *Slipper*, in Bass's streights: he was accompanied by seven men, but he never saw his ship afterwards, from that day to this. The ship was bound to those streights, for the very purpose of fishing and seal catching; and of course proceeded to every place they thought most likely to forward their object, in obtaining the completion of their cargo. When he and his companions returned from *Slipper Island* to *Kent's Groupe*, where they had left the ship safe at anchor, they found she was not there, and he never saw her more. The winds had blown very heavy from the north-westward, and the vessel went round to the westward point. By some mismanagement, it happened, that while those on board the vessel were looking out for the witness and his companions, and he was looking for them, they missed each other, and he never met the ship more; after waiting a considerable time, in vain expectation, and seeing no further hopes of finding the vessel, he and his companions resolved to proceed for New South Wales, the distance to which, in the way they were to proceed, was about 160 miles, and they were obliged to make it in an open boat: he could not exactly say, within a few days, when he reached Western Port; but it was early in the next year after he had been left at the *Slipper*. It was about March 1810; but he there found

such circumstances as quite satisfied his mind that the ship had been wrecked. He found many things thrown amongst the rocks, and on the shore, which had belonged to the ship, and amongst others, his own *club* for killing seals, which had his name cut on it, part of the ship's bulwark; and he told his companions, that the ship must certainly have been wrecked there; that it was highly probable the crew had contrived to refit her, and that they had proceeded with her to Port Jackson, in New South Wales, and no where else, and thither they resolved to follow her.

They remained at Western Port about three days, and then set out for Port Jackson:—they ran down the coast, and from island to island, and then proceeded for Van Diemen's Land, and at last arrived in the Derwent River, where they were picked up by *Admiral Bligh*, whom they met on board a King's ship of 20 guns. This was about a fortnight or three weeks from the time they had left Kent's Grouse: he had been in the South Seas before: he afterwards arrived at Port Jackson, and went on board the *Unrry*, and remained at Port Jackson about six months. He then heard that the *Active* had arrived there some time before, in a shattered state; but that she had refitted and gone to sea with a fresh crew, and he never heard of her more.

DAVID LOWRIESTON, being sworn and examined, stated, that he had but lately returned to this country, from New South Wales: he sailed in the ship *Active*, to Port Jackson, in 1809. When the ship went to Bass's straits, two boats, the schooner and whale boat, were dispatched from the ship, in search of seals: they met with very heavy gales of wind: the ship sailed in search of the boats, and they were in hopes of picking up Turnbull and his companions, but missed them: the ship went into Western Port, in hopes of finding the schooner and whale boat there, but could not find them. The wind continued to blow very hard, and they were obliged to cut their cable; but the ship

shortly afterwards struck on the beach, where she continued six days, to beat the whole time very much; they at last got her off, and were in hopes of getting her into a place of safety, but she again struck, and was upset, and continued under water, the sea beating over her, for 21 days; but the crew at last, with the greatest perseverance and difficulty, righted her. While they were in this situation they were joined by one of the boats' crews they had been in search of; and having refitted the vessel in the best manner they could, they proceeded to Port Jackson. They had between 12 and 1300 skins on board, but had been obliged to throw a great number overboard. In 1809, on the 4th of December, they were refitted at Port Jackson, and went to sea again, to complete the object of their voyage. They arrived off New Zealand, and there found a great quantity of seals. The shore at times seemed covered with them. In consequence of finding such abundance of seals at this place, he and seven other men were put on shore in a boat, upon two small islands, near New Zealand. These islands had no name in their charts, and they were now named the *Active Islands*, after the name of the ship: that on which he was put, was about three quarters of a mile long, and some 150 fathoms broad, clear of the rock: the ship went away on the 3d of January, upon discoveries for more seals: the coast was then unexplored: she came back again on the 9th of February: she then landed all the salt she had, with two men more, and a quantity of provisions, and left him and the eight others to work on shore, and she went to Port Jackson for more provisions and salt; at that time the party supposed she would return immediately, which she might have done by an ordinary passage, in three weeks; but she never came back, and the witness with nine companions, eight belonging to the ship, and one, a prisoner from Port Jackson, Botany Bay, remained on the island, and the adjacent one of New Zealand, three years and ten months; where, after

the provisions landed were exhausted, they supported themselves on the flesh of *seals*, and some few aquatic birds they caught; and when their clothing was quite worn out, they were obliged to attire themselves in seal skins. For seven days and nights they were without any food or water whatever.

From the rest of Lowrieston's evidence, it appeared, that during the stay of this young man and his unfortunate companions in this desolate abode, the contrivances to preserve their existence, and protect themselves from the occasional severity of the weather, which dire necessity suggested, were innumerable. They were obliged to seek shelter, at times, in caves, dug out by incredible labour, from the side of the mountains, on that part of the island where they landed, and which was cut off from the opposite side by an immense chain of high and impassable mountains, from north to south, to the extreme points of land at each end. They made some efforts to get over these mountains, in order to reach the opposite side of the island, where they hoped to find inhabitants and some provisions; as, from what some of them recollected to have read or heard of New Zealand, they judged there were plenty of hogs; but after clambering with incredible labour, over some of those literally cloud-capt regions, they found still higher mountains to contend with, presenting a tract as boundless, and utterly barren. Being exceedingly weak, from the wretched manner in which they had so long subsisted, they relinquished their purpose, after advancing about nine miles into the country; and returned to their former mansion, where they might, at least, prolong an existence, which however wretched, was still dear to the feelings of nature, under the faint hope of being, at some time or other, providentially delivered from a state of solitude. The land was so barren and unproductive of any indigenous vegetable, fit to make part of their sustenance, that *seals* and the few *birds* already mentioned, were for two years their only food.

After the tedious lapse of *three years and ten months*; from their first landing on this inhospitable shore, a period more than trebled by anxiety, and almost lost to all hope of ever regaining their native land, they were rejoiced at the appearance of a sail, at some considerable distance from the land.—The gloom of despondency was now cheered by the liveliest exultations of joyful expectancy.—They saw, or imagined they saw, the vessel nearing the land.—They were not deceived,—for that way she was bending her course. Oh ! should she be a British ship !—But that was too flattering a hope to indulge.—The vessel approached nearer,—they made every signal in their power to attract her notice,—they soon perceived their signals were observed,—and to their inexpressible joy, saw, as the vessel approached nearer, her boat launched, manned, and pulling hard for the shore, where they were assembled. But if their joy was great, under these cheering circumstances,—how inexpressibly greater their delight, when in the sailors who jumped on shore, they perceived a *hearty crew of British tars* ; who, in their turn, were not less astonished to find in an apparent horde of savage islanders, clad in seal skins, and squalid with the long protracted wretchedness of their situation,—ten brother-tars, friends, and countrymen !

The joy and surprise on both sides was inexpressibly great. The long exiled adventurers accepted with delight and gratitude, the invitation of the mate, who came with the boat's crew, to proceed on board the ship, which was a British South Sea whaler, come to those regions for a similar purpose with the *Active*. They took a long and joyful farewell of the cheerless scene, which had for so many years been the theatre of their sorrow and despair ; and shortly afterwards were landed in Port Jackson, in Botany Bay, from whence Lowrieston took the first opportunity of proceeding to England, leaving his nine companions at the British settlement, to recover their shattered health.

Verdict for the plaintiffs, to the amount of the total loss of the vessel, and of the average loss on the seal skins, injured by the upsetting of the vessel.

LOWRIESTON is a young man, about 28, apparently much injured in his health, from the hardships he had sustained, and the wretched diet on which he had so long subsisted; we understand his owners have contributed humanely to his comforts, and have resolved to set on foot a subscription for his future subsistence.

AUTHENTIC AND INTERESTING ANECDOTES OF THE LATE

MR. THOMAS COOKE,

THE CELEBRATED MISER OF PENTONVILLE.

THE subject of this memoir was in truth a singular character. Misers, in general, conceal their wealth, but Mr. Cooke always boasted of his immense property; the avaricious, likewise, deny themselves common necessities; but this extraordinary man took care to live well—at the expense of others.

Mr. Cooke is said to have been born near Norwich, but according to his own account, Clewer, a village near Windsor, gave him birth, about the year 1726. His father was an itinerant fiddler, who got his livelihood by playing at country fairs and in alehouses; he died while his son was an infant, and an aged grandmother, who lived at Swannington, near Norwich, took care of young Cooke, till he was able to provide for himself. He was then employed in a manufactory, where there were a great many other boys, who were paid a certain stipend, according to their work, out of which they procured their own subsistence.

In this his tender age, Thomas gave strong proofs of parsimony. These boys always clubbed a certain sum from their weekly earnings, for the purpose of establishing a mess.



THOMAS COOKE,
The Lilington Miser.

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That gentleman, desirous of obliging a faithful servant, got him appointed to a district, in the neighbourhood of London, and gave him a letter of introduction to an eminent sugar-baker; but Cooke not having money to pay his passage to town in a stage, and the distance being too far for a journey on foot, applied to some of his poor relations for a supply. Having received all the money they could collect among themselves, he came up to London, in a Norwich waggon, and had, on his arrival, *eight shillings* in his pocket.

Although appointed to a district, Mr. Cooke found that his qualification to act as an exciseman, was not to be obtained without great delay, much difficulty, and, what was worse than all, some *expence*. Mr. Postle's letter to the sugar-baker, however, procured him the situation of porter; and in the course of time, he learned so much of the business, as induced his new master to employ him as a journeyman. By paying close attention to the superior of the district in which he was to act, (as he was allowed the time he stood in need of to attend to his own business), and by the money he saved while in the service of this sugar-baker, Mr. Cooke was at length enabled to assume the dignity to which he had aspired, that of an officer of the excise, sometimes armed with a cutlass and pistol, which he always took care to hang up in his sitting room, when at home.

Having been appointed to inspect the exciseable concerns of a large paper-mill and manufactory near Tottenham, Cooke was exceedingly well pleased; for being already versed in some parts of the trade, from the knowledge he had acquired in the service of Mr. Postle, he was desirous of learning those secrets in the trade, to which he was still a stranger. During the time he was officially employed in this concern, the master of the paper-mills and manufactory died. The widow, however, by the advice of her friends, carried on the business, with the assistance of the foreman.

Cooke's knowledge of the business, but particularly the regularity with which he rendered his accounts to the Board of Excise, induced the Commissioners to continue him in the employ. In the mean time, he took a regular and exact account of sundry infractions of the laws, which either from design or inadvertence, were daily committed in this paper manufactory: Having calculated the value of the concern, and the several thousand pounds the penalties incurred, by frauds on the revenue, would amount to, he seized an opportunity of privately informing the widow, that these penalties, if levied, would amount to more than double the value of all her property, and expose her to beggary and the King's Bench. He assured her, that the frauds which had been at different times committed, were only known to himself, and suddenly proposed marriage to her, as the only means of insuring his secrecy. The widow, no doubt, convinced of the truth of Mr. Cooke's statement, and seeing in him a man of comely countenance, and of good figure, gave him a favourable answer, but suggested the propriety of deferring the marriage till the time allotted to the mourning for her first husband had expired. Mr. Cooke agreed to this delay, having taken care to obtain her consent and promise on parchment.

On his marriage with this lady, Cooke became possessed of all her property, which was very large, and particularly of the mills at Tottenham, which were on lease to her former husband. On the expiration of the lease, he applied to the proprietors for a renewal of it; but in consequence of a previous treaty, the premises were, to his great mortification, let to another gentleman.

Having heard of a large sugar concern in Puddle-dock, which was to be disposed of, he immediately took it, as he knew something of the business, and flattered himself, that he would be able to add rapidly to his already very large fortune. He now adopted an economical plan, never being at home at meal times, for fear a customer or friend might call in

to take pot-luck with him. A cask of table beer, (containing only four gallons and a half), was the largest quantity he ever had in his house, which was for the indulgence of his wife; and to this he had a lock-cock, the key of which he always kept, as he found by experience, his servants would not drink water. Water was the only beverage he treated himself to; but whenever inclined for a glass of good wine, he would find his way to some of his tradesmen, to whom he knew he was an important customer, taking care to make himself well acquainted with the usual family hour for dinner. The greater part of his daily food was gained by making visits; for though he always declined stopping, till he was repeatedly asked, yet he was easily prevailed upon. He took care to make the extent of his riches known; and whenever he saw children, pretended great affection for them, soliciting their names in writing; by which means, the deluded parents, imagining they would be all remembered in his will, took care to cultivate his friendship. Thus, Mr. Cooke not only rendered himself welcome at meal-hours, but continually received presents of game, roasting pigs, poultry, fruit, and all kinds of viands. Of these, he just kept as much of the worst and least saleable, as would suffice for his own family, and sold the rest. He was once known to make a present to a gentleman of a hare; but he enquired very minutely on what day he intended to have it dressed, that he might call the next day for the skin.

With all his parsimony, however, Cooke, to his great astonishment, found, that instead of making money by his sugar-house, he had lost, at the end of twelve months, 500*l*. In order to discover the secrets of the trade, to which he had been a stranger, he was induced to invite several sugar-bakers to dine with him, and after plying them with plenty of wine, he put questions to some of the younger and more unguarded of the trade, who, in a state of intoxication, made the desirable discoveries. His wife, astonish-

ed at his being so unusually generous, expressed her apprehensions about the expence of the wine; but he told her, he would *suck as much of the brains*, (his usual phrase), of some of the fools, as would amply repay him.

This was the only sumptuous dinner Mr. Cooke ever gave, and which no doubt answered his purpose, not only by the discoveries thus obtained, but by being asked to several dinners in return, and having additional presents. When induced to keep an ordinary bird, as he was not fond of cold meat, he would quarter a goose, or a lean turkey into four, and roast a joint every day while it lasted; this and a dish of cabbage, formed the whole of each day's entertainment. He was so particularly fond of cabbage, that he was always known by the nickname of *Cabbage Cooke*. Rather than make any presents, he often kept hares, partridges, pheasants, &c. until they stunk; their feathers he then preserved in a bag, to be sold; if a hare, he would carry it to a dogs' meat-seller, and haggle for half a sheep's head or a pig's face, always reminding the purchaser, that the skin would fetch a groat. A fine goose, a pair of prime fowls, a fat turkey, or a salmon, though received as presents, were a treat too delicate for him to feast on, unless at the table of another. These therefore he would carry himself, (for he would trust to no servant), to Leadenhall or Whitechapel market, and go from stall to stall, to get the utmost penny. He always kept the vegetables that were sent to him as presents, and when he had a quantity of potatoes in the house, he would allow no bread to be purchased.

Soon after Mr. Cooke had established himself in the sugar-house, he was visited by a man of the name of Thomas Sidney, who had been a play-fellow and a favourite, and who had rendered Cooke many services in his puerile days, when he lived with his grandmother. At a subsequent period, Sidney came to London, and worked as a sawyer, and his wife kept a chandler's shop, near the Gardens,

at the back of the White Swan, in Hoxton. Cooke always received Sidney with apparent cordiality, and assured him he should be named in his will for something very handsome. The poor man, of course, expected a legacy that would make him comfortable for the remainder of his life. Notwithstanding all the professions of friendship which Mr. Cooke made to this friend, his generosity never extended so far as to ask him and his wife to eat a bit of dinner, above once a year; while Cooke's visits to Hoxton, (where Mr. and Mrs. Sidney lived for many years), were often made in the summer time, on Sundays. He then protested he was prodigiously happy out of the smoke of the city, as the delightful air of the fields gave him an appetite for his dinner, and his luxury was to enjoy an after-dinner mug of ale, and talk of old times with his dear friend. Poor Sidney and his wife always gave him the best they could afford, and Mr. Cooke promised that they should never want while he lived.

An evil *day* at length arrived, when this unfortunate couple were obliged to give up their little shop. Mrs. Sidney took courage to wait on their rich old friend; but how astonished she was, to hear Mr. Cooke exclaim, "I am really sorry at your misfortunes,—what a happy thing there is in this country such institutions as parish work-houses! Your husband has paid scot and lot so long as a house-keeper in Hoxton, that it entitles you both to a settlement,—the church-wardens cannot refuse to take you in,—go then, my dear woman, make instant application, and here is a *shilling* for you." Having given this advice, Mr. Cooke suddenly walked out of the house, and left Mrs. Sidney in such a state of insensibility, at the proposal of the work-house, that she never attended to his putting the shilling into her hand. The succeeding winter being very severe, the inhabitants of the parish entered into a subscription to sell coals to the poor, at the rate of a shilling per bushel. Mr. Cooke being a subscriber of half a guinea, had, like the other subscribers, a

few tickets to deliver to distressed objects, Mrs. Sidney having ventured to call again, Mr. Cooke gave her a ticket, but told her she must find the shilling elsewhere.

Others besides Sidney were the dupes of Mr. Cooke's fair promises, and suffered for their credulity. Mr. King, a paper-maker, went so far in making him presents and entertaining him, that he became a bankrupt. On his application to this miser for relief, Cooke knowing that he had many friends, desired him to get all he could from them, and then come to him. Mr. King took his advice, and shortly after waited on Cooke, with a list of benefactions. "How much have you got?" said Cooke: "About 200*l*." "Then, sir, you ought never to want money as long as you live.—Why, sir," continued this eccentric character, "you have got an immense sum, and cannot want more.—I will give you though, a piece of advice that will be worth double the money,—and that is, if ever you buy a pint of beer again, as long as you live, you ought to be d——d! There are plenty of pumps,—and I will give you nothing."

Mr. Cooke seldom passed by a pump that he did not take a hearty drink. In his daily visits to the Bank, he regaled himself at the pump near the Exchange. He was in the constant habit of pocketing the Bank paper, as he never bought any thing, if he could get it for nothing. Ink was another article which Cooke used to obtain in large quantities, by begging: he carried a strong phial, that held something more than half a pint, and whenever he entered the counting house of any friend, he always asked for a little ink in his bottle, when it was generally filled for him. This ink answered a double purpose; for, besides enabling him to write, it served to make his shoes black in the morning.

Mr. Cooke not only made free with the Bank paper, before the plan was adopted of having the back of the paper printed with checks all over, but he scrupled not to make

the sum of about 120*l*. which a widow lady placed in his hands as a loan, his own property. The half year's interest on this money he paid with the most scrupulous punctuality, for some time. Understanding that the lady would at a certain time call on him for the principal, he waited on her to pay her a half year's interest, which was due, and was particularly civil, as he always was when about to over-reach any one. He deposited a bank-note in payment, which the lady observed was more than she was entitled to. Cooke said he had no smaller sum about him, nor any change. She immediately rose to ring the bell for the servant to get change; but Cooke prevented her, saying it was only a few shillings more, which could be deducted from the next half-year's interest. Before the expiration of the next half year, the lady, as foreseen, had occasion for her money, and made the regular demand. Receiving no answer to several applications, she found herself obliged to have recourse to law. Mr. Cooke defended the action; swore to his having paid a certain sum of money, which the widow did not deny; but having no witness to prove in what manner it happened, she was cast in the action, on the ground that she had taken ~~unlawful~~ interest, and had all the costs to pay!

The only indulgence Mr. Cooke allowed his wife was a small quantity of table beer, as before mentioned; and it may naturally be supposed, that a woman who enjoyed every comfort with her former husband, could have little regard for the second. In short, Mr. Cooke used her so ill, that she died of a broken heart.

Matrimony being, in Mr. Cooke's opinion, a matter of money, after his wife's death he paid his addresses to several widows who were known to have comfortable jointures. There were two points, however, which he insisted on; first, that the lady should make over the whole of her property to him; and the second, that she should ~~thank him~~ in her chamber,

if any, by a former husband. Mr. Cooke, though he paid his addresses to several, found none of the ladies inclined to comply upon these terms.

Notwithstanding the frugal manner in which this man lived, he did not deny himself occasional amusement. He contrived generally once a year to go to Epsom races. These excursions, however, never cost him any thing; for having cajoled several by promises of making them his heir, he always procured companions to bear the expences; and he not only had his ride to Epsom in a friend's gig, and back again to town, but also his bed, meals, and every other accommodation *gratis*, during the time of the races.

Mr. Cooke was also particularly fond of a good horse; but the poor beast often felt the pangs of hunger. When not employing him, he kept him at livery-stables; but when he rode him, he would not allow corn for him at any place where he had occasion to stop, alleging to the hostler, "that he had had his corn at the last place he stopped, so that he wanted nothing to eat; or at most not more than a mouthful of hay, and a little water." for which slender accommodation he would generously reward the hostler with a *penny*. Indeed his stoppages upon the road were not frequent, and when he did stop, it was with a view to economy. If riding into the country, he used to fill his pockets with cold meat from his own house, and fragments of stale bread; when, on the road, he felt himself hungry, or wished to rest his horse, he would alight at the door of a public-house, deliver his horse to the hostler, with the caution before mentioned, and pulling out his broken victuals from his pocket, call for half a pint of beer, and thus regale himself, to save the expence of going to an ordinary.

Many were his expedients for feeding his horse on these occasions. If he happened to fall in with a good honest farmer, or farmer's servant, travelling the same way he was going, with a load of hay, he thought himself fortunate.

Being a well-informed man, he could converse on almost any subject, and could accommodate himself to the taste of the person he conversed with; he would of course enter into chat with the driver of the hay-cart, on the weather, the price of hay and corn, and other topics of rural economy; thus having wormed himself into the good graces of his companion, he would carry on the conversation for miles; and while riding after the cart's tail, would suffer his horse to pull many a sweet mouthful, and take his belly full of the countryman's hay. At other times, when riding alone, he would frequently turn into bye-lanes; and if he saw the gate of a meadow or pasture field open, he would ride into the field, take the bridle off the horse, and let him take a full feed. If, in a very retired place, he ever found a gate locked, he made no scruple to lift it off the hinges to let his horse in, that he might have a belly full at any body's expence but his own. In one of his excursions he made free with another man's property in this manner; but some farmer's men that were watching him, and knew his character, made fast the gate, after he and his horse had got into the field, secured both the gentleman and his horse, and in spite of his entreaties and *tears*, (for he could always weep), made him pay handsomely for the trespass he had committed.

A favourite horse of his had at one time a disease in the eyes, for which Cooke wished to have a cure; but as he was too avaricious to go to a veterinary surgeon, (for he mortally hated to pay for any medical advice, either for man or beast), he listened to the quackery of some silly journeyman farrier, or more probably some one, who knowing his disposition, had a mind to banter him, and gave him the following, as a recipe for his horse's sore eyes: "You must take thirty onions, drill a hole in each, run a string through all, and hang the onions, thus strung like a necklace, round the horse's neck, and let him wear it continually. As the

onions hang on, they will draw the humour out of the horse's eyes into themselves; and by the time they are dried up and shrivelled, the eyes will get well; if not, repeat the remedy; but mark this, when the onions become withered, they will be so full of the acrimonious humour, drawn from the horse's eyes, that you must bury the onions where no hog can get at them." "Thirty onions, Sir! why they would could cost a great deal of money! Pray, Sir, would it not do just as well if I were to buy one very large onion, and cut it into *thirty pieces*, and string those thirty slices, and put them round the beast's neck?" "O no, Sir, for they would wither in a day, and lose all efficacy; they must be *whole* onions." Cooke, however, could not find in his heart to part with so much money, as would purchase *thirty* onions; half the number he supposed would do as well; but although he was so foolishly credulous as to give ear to this nonsense, his avarice would not allow him to believe in the deleterious quality of the onions. Wisely presuming therefore, that nothing ought to be thrown away, he took the onions, when they were quite shrivelled, and he supposed they had done their duty as an amulet round his horse's neck for a fortnight, and throwing away the string, he put them into a hand-basket, and brought them into the house, as if just returned from market, desiring his servants to make a dish of onion porridge for that day's dinner. The servants knowing from whence they came, peremptorily refused; and the old gentleman swore he would not leave them a *farden* in his will.

One time Cooke bargained with the keeper of a livery-stable to let his horse have the run of a field, to graze in, at so much per day. When he wanted to ride, he always took a very accurate account of the number of hours he had him out, and of the time of his outgoing and returning: as soon as he intended to take away the horse finally, he desired the man to bring in his bill. On perusing it, he flew into a

great passion, asking the man did he mean to be a robber, to plunder him, and cheat him of his gold, &c. The stable-keeper desired him to count the number of days, from the time the horse was first taken in to graze, until the day he was taken away, and he would find the bill very correct. "Horse taken in! No, Sir, it is *me* that you want to take in, and *yourself* that ought to be corrected, for wanting to cheat me of my gold! Had I not my horse out of your field, eight hours on Thursday? Well, Sir, and did I not ride him to Epsom next day, and had him out of your field eleven hours, that is nineteen hours; then, Sir, five hours and a half on Saturday; there, Sir, there are two days and half an hour, that you wanted to cheat me out of; in short, here is an account of as many hours that my horse has been out of your field, as amounts to fifteen days: and have you the conscience, you cheating rogue, to expect me to pay you for my horse eating your grass, when he has been miles and miles away from it?" As the stable-keeper swore he would make him pay dearly for calling him a cheat and a rogue, Mr. Cooke, who was afraid of law, thought fit to make an apology, and paid the full amount of his bill.

During the life-time of his wife, Mr. Cooke actually formed the determination of keeping *two* horses, and even a carriage! With this view, he was for some on the look out for the purchase of a new horse, in addition to the one he already possessed. In these researches, it was his lot to fall into company with three or four gentlemen, among whom, one of them was bargaining with another for the sale of a horse; the price was to be twenty guineas. Cooke, who knew very well the value of a good horse, examined the beast with great accuracy, and ventured to say to the owner, that if the gentleman who wished to purchase him, had bid his utmost price, he considered himself at liberty to offer more; the parties agreeing to this, Cooke said he would give twenty-two guineas, provided the owner would allow him, as a trial,

to take a ride for five or six miles, just to know his paces, and to ascertain whether he would suit him, promising to return at an appointed hour. Mr. Cooke being well known to all the parties, this indulgence was readily granted. The hour of his promised return expired, but no Cooke. After another hour of impatient expectation, the poor horse was led in by his rider, limping, sweating through pain and anguish, the blood running in torrents down his fore legs, the skin and muscular parts of which were lacerated, in a state shocking to behold. Cooke, who had always tears at his command, threw himself into a chair, lamenting that his dear friend should meet with such a misfortune! After requesting a few minutes to indulge his grief, he related, that after having gone on so pleasantly, never having met with a more lovely creature, and one that would so well have suited him, unfortunately, in a narrow part of the road he got between a stage coach driving furiously, and a waggon going in a contrary direction: all his efforts to avoid injury to the horse were in vain; the wheels of both carriages came nearly in contact with each other, and the poor horse had his knees broken and lacerated in this miserable manner. "Nor did I," continued he, "escape," shewing his worsted stocking, recently torn and dirtied, and a slight graze on his leg, "for I myself was near being killed; but, alas! it was an accident; however, Sir, since I most unfortunately had your horse in my care at the time of the accident, I am willing that you shall not be a loser by him; nobody now would give five pounds for him, but as I was the innocent cause of this misfortune, I will give you fifteen." Whether matters would have been settled between Cooke and the owner amicably, is uncertain, but the gentleman who was bargaining for the horse when Cooke joined their company, after examining the injury the beast had received, offered to stand to his original bargain, provided the owner, in consideration of the expence of employing a farrier

to cure the horse's knees, would throw in the saddle and bridle into the bargain. This was agreed to on the part of the owner, and the horse, under the care of a skilful farrier, was soon completely cured, and made as well as ever.

The gentleman who bought the horse, belonged to a club of respectable tradesmen who frequented the Three Tuns chop-house, in Smithfield, and who in the summer season occasionally made an excursion to dine at a certain tavern, a few miles from town. He being one of the party, and coming rather late, the rest of the gentlemen, who were standing at the parlour window, noticed the horse, and observed, that he did not appear the worse for the severe operation he had undergone some months back. This, of course, brought on an enquiry as to what they meant, and the truth was soon discovered. Cooke, on the day he had borrowed the horse for a trial, came to this very house, and alighting, led the horse to a farrier's shop near at hand. He there made his proposal to the farrier's man, (the master being from home) to cut and mangle the horse's knees, so as to make him bleed freely, but to do it so as not to injure any of the tendons. To this act of cruelty the fellow at first objected, but upon Cooke's representing that there was a considerable bet depending on it, and saying that if he would not do it, he should easily find some one else that would—the fellow thought he might as well earn the reward (two pots of beer) as another, and accordingly scored and lacerated the poor horse, to the satisfaction of Mr. Cooke, and the disgust and horror of the bystanders, some of whom were the very men that were then assembled at the dinner party. In that condition the inhuman wretch rode the miserable animal to town, exulting in the hope, that by this stratagem, he should get the horse some pounds cheaper.

Sir Barnard Turner having, about the year 1783, made Mr. Cooke an advantageous proposal for the sugar-house

concern—he accordingly disposed of it to that gentleman, and purchased of Mr. Tibbs, Holborn-bridge, the White-lead and Vinegar Manufactory at Chelsea-bridge. Mr. Cooke did not long continue in this business, for he sold it soon after he bought it.

Having lent a large sum of money to an Irish nobleman, which he found he could not recover without going to Ireland, he determined in 1789, on taking the journey, but an unpleasant circumstance occurred at this time, which detained Mr. Cooke a few weeks. No man was more severe in his censures on those who gave way to illicit pleasures than Mr. Cooke, who always held himself up as a miracle of chastity. This gentleman, however, like Joseph in the School for Scandal, gave proofs that he was not more exempt from the frailties of human nature than other people; for, to his undescribable dismay, he received a visit from the parish officers of St. James, Clerkenwell, for the maintenance of a female child, which one of their parishioners had sworn to him. He at that time resided in Red-lion-yard, behind St. Sepulchre's church. Fortunately for himself, he being not then so well known in the parish of Clerkenwell as he was afterwards, the officers were strangers to his person, and to his means, otherwise they would not have let him off so cheaply as they did. He knew that his amours with the girl could not be denied; but he represented himself as a poor unfortunate man, who had neither friends, nor a farthing of money in England; that he was preparing to go to Ireland, where he had a cabin and an acre or two of land, barely sufficient to keep life and soul together; that it was his intention to reside there, and by dint of hard labour and the sweat of his brow, spend out the remainder of his day; that he had saved up by years of hard labour, twenty-five guineas, to carry him over, and that sum *was all he was worth in the world*; and, that if they took from him the whole of that sum, and did not leave him as

much as would bear his expences to travel on foot to Chester, and pay his passage, he had nothing to look for, but to beg his way there as a common beggar, which he humbly hoped the gentlemen would have compassion on him, and not force him to.

Having plenty of tears at command on all occasions, he was not sparing of them; until at last the parish officers, by dint of his protestations, intreaties, and agony of grief, were induced to lower their demands, and consent to take eighteen guineas from him, which were paid into the hands of Mr. John Shallis, of Vineyard Gardens, Clerkenwell. Having taken a receipt in full of all demands for that sum, the old man marched off, glorying in the deceit he had practised on the officers.

On his arrival in Ireland, he closely besieged the doors of the nobleman whom he had accommodated. At last he gained his point, and having secured the bulk of the sum recovered, by remittances to his banker in London, he afforded himself as much loose cash as might be sufficient for pocket money in a trip to France, which he was prevailed on to take at the instance of some Irish gentlemen who were setting off, and who represented to him at how small an expence the trip might be undertaken, and how cheaply all the necessaries of life might be obtained in that kingdom.

Notwithstanding this man's inordinate love of money, he always had a hankering after public places of amusement, and the pleasures of travelling, when he could enjoy them at the expence of other people; but it is not very clear, that the old gentleman would have suffered these representations of the cheapness of provisions in France, to have any influence on his mind, were it not, that he had the offer of having his expences borne by one of the many, whom he contrived to dupe by strong assurances of being mentioned in his will. In this manner Cooke embarked

for France, and while his entertainer was contemplating the pleasures he was bestowing on his fellow-traveller, and counting over in idea the thousands he calculated on receiving after the old man's death, Cooke enjoyed at free cost the pleasures of Paris; but none of these pleasures gave him half so much delight, as the laugh he had at the folly of the credulous legacy-hunter, who set no bounds to his generosity in treating the ungrateful and insidious reptile who thus lived on him.

Mr. Cooke had set off so privately from London, that none of his acquaintance knew whither he was gone; and after he had been missing some time, those who expected to be gainers by his death, set on foot an enquiry to learn whether he was living or dead. Many took the trouble to enquire at his bankers, and were soon put out of suspense, by being informed, that he was alive and well, and would soon make his appearance again in London.

On his return from the continent, being detached from the fatigues of a life of business, he determined on taking a house a little way out of town, but not at so great a distance as to prevent him from walking every day to the Bank. Accordingly he pitched on Pentonville for his residence, and until he could suit himself with a dwelling, he resided for some time at the Angel inn, at Islington, from whence he afterwards removed into a small house he had taken in Winchester-place, Pentonville.

During the time he lived in Winchester-place, he began to think that he could maintain his horse much cheaper by having him at home, than by keeping him at a livery-stable. For this purpose, he actually converted the kitchen of his house in Winchester-place into a stable, and used to curry and fodder, and do all the necessities about his horse with his own hands, to save the expence of hiring a stable-boy. Besides, in this saving plan, he had the dung too for his cabbages, which was no small advantage. As he had the

horse, he thought it would be no very great expence to keep a chaise for this horse to draw, and he actually did at one time relax so far from his rigid system of economy, as to resolve on keeping one. Accordingly, he bargained with a coach-maker, and the chaise was sent home, with harness and every thing complete. Mr. Cooke, however, in ordering home this chaise, seemed for once to have lost his foresight, and to have neglected to weigh all the expences attending the keeping of this vehicle. He had no chaise-house to put it in, to preserve it from the weather. He saw, that although he might be able to dress his horse, the keeping the chaise and horse too, clean and in order, would be too much for him; he even forgot the tax that he would have to pay for his carriage; and he found that he could not do without a man-servant to take care of his horse and chaise: therefore, until he could hire this man-servant, he could not run his chaise. How he was to dispose of it in the mean time, he had not thought of. To keep it in the open area before the house, would not do: it might be stolen at night, or injured, and the rain would render it unfit for use; and the doors were not wide enough to admit of its being run through the house, into the back-part. He therefore had the wheels taken off, and put in the back garden, and the body was then carried through the house, into the back yard, and lifted up through the back window into his bed-chamber. However, that he did not entirely give up the idea of running his chaise, was evident from his attempts to hire a man-servant. On making known that he wanted one, he had several applications; but, one man was too slight to do the work, another too old; one he rejected, because he was a thin, lathy-shanked fellow with a wide mouth, that he was sure would eat too much; another, because he owned he could not do without a little drop of gin, once a week. But there were two grand objections to all that offered; namely, that they all

declared they expected to have a sufficiency of victuals ; the other, the rogues, without exception, asked a great deal more wages than he was inclined to give ; and therefore he was determined to keep the chaise and wheels where they were, until he could find some more reasonable attendant. The chaise-body stood in his bed-chamber, and the wheels lay against the wall in his garden, for years after years, until they were quite rotten ; and the wheels especially, that had been exposed to all variations and inclemencies of the weather, overgrown with grass and weeds. In this state, he took it into his head to try to sell them, and among other customers whom he wished to attract, he offered them to a gentleman who was afterwards his executor, telling him that he expected a good price for the vehicle, as it had never been used but once, namely, from the maker's house to his own, and of course not a bit the worse for wear and tear.

During the whole time Mr. Cooke lived in Winchester-place, which is supposed to have been from twelve to fourteen or fifteen years, he never once painted the house, inside or outside. The landlord of the house was not very well satisfied with this neglect ; and finding all remonstrances vain, he was desirous of doing some repairs at his own expence ; but Cooke would not suffer the workmen to come into the house. When the landlord found that he could obtain no good of Mr. Cooke, he gave him legal warning to quit. Of this warning, the old man took no notice. When the time had nearly expired, at which, agreeably to notice, the landlord expected Mr. Cooke to quit his house, he waited on him to enquire if he had provided himself with another dwelling, telling him at the same time, that he expected to have the house given up at the appointed time. Upon this, Mr. Cooke, with abundance of tears and lamentations, intreated him not to be so cruel as to turn him out ; that he had been looking for a house, but had not yet been so fortunate as to meet with one that

would suit him; and begged hard for another month to look out. This was granted. A similar application made at the end of the month, obtained the indulgence of another. The landlord now determined to be peremptory, and wrote him word, that he should certainly call on such a day, at a certain hour, at which time he should expect Mr. Cooke, without farther delay, to give up the possession of the house. The old gentleman, who well knew that in all cases of law, the being in possession of good and sufficient evidence, was of great importance, took care to appoint one of those people, whom he held in suberviency by his usual policy of promising to remember him handsomely in his will, to be in attendance at his house exactly at the hour at which he expected the landlord to call on him. On his arrival Mr. Cooke feigned himself very ill: the landlord said, "Well, Sir, I hope you have suited yourself, as really the house will tumble down, and bury you in the ruins, it is so much out of repair; and as you will not repair it, I must absolutely have the key." Mr. Cooke's tears now flowing in torrents, he exclaimed, "miserable man that I am! which way shall I turn me? can you have the heart to turn a poor old man at my time of life into the street? O dear! what will become of me? I am not able to look out, and I have no friend to look out for me; I wish the house would fall on me, and put me out of my misery! Spare me! spare me for God's sake! and upon my honour, I will, as soon as ever I can, try to provide myself; but don't turn a poor old man out to die in the street." A fresh flood of tears, with the proper accompaniments of sobbing, groans, and sighs, were now called up. The landlord being a merciful man, was melted into compassion; and the shock at seeing the old man fall into one of his usual fits, (well feigned on the present occasion) completely softened his heart. He begged Mr. Cooke to dry up his tears, and assured him he would not trouble

him, but trusted to his honor that he would provide himself a house as soon as he could; and he declared on his word he would not put him to distress, nor trouble him to remove, until he was suited with a house. Then, with many *real* cordial shakes of the hand on the one side, and as many *deceitful* professions of gratitude on the other, the landlord took his leave.

As soon as he was gone, Cooke, turning to his associate, said, "how easily some fools are gulled in this world! Did not you remark that he gave me his promise on his word and honor that he would not put me to distress nor trouble me, until I should be suited with a house? Make a memorandum of that; here is pen and ink, and write it in your pocket book that he made this promise, and be sure you mention the day of the month, and year, and hour."

From that day Cooke troubled himself no more about a house, but rested himself very contentedly where he was, and enjoyed many a laugh at the expence of his landlord, when he recounted to his visitors the artful manner in which he had cajoled him. But the owner of the house, not intending to carry those words to the full extent of their meaning, paid Mr. Cooke many friendly visits, urging him to quit the house, but he was immoveable. At last, after being kept out of the house until his patience was quite worn out, he brought an ejectment against Mr. Cooke. Cooke suffered this to be brought into court; and, upon the trial, he brought forward the man, whom he had secured as evidence; who swore that the plaintiff, in his presence, on a certain day and hour, did actually promise that he would not turn Mr. Cooke out, *but wait until the latter should find it convenient to suit himself with another house*; on this evidence the landlord was non-suited, and Cooke had the satisfaction of returning home in triumph. The landlord, however, brought his action *de novo*, and likewise another action, for the amount of 30*l.* for dilapidations, such as turn-

ing the kitchen into a stable, &c., in both of which he succeeded, after being kept out of his house for full two years or more, by the artifices and obstinacy of his refractory tenant. Mr. Cooke, who very well foresaw that he should not be able to stand his ground against his landlord in this second contest, was prudent enough to take timely measures to secure a retreat; accordingly, before the day arrived, on which the ejection was to have been put in force against him, he had removed his furniture and his domestics, to the house No. 85, White-lion-street, Pentonville, in which he afterwards resided, to the time of his death.

While Cooke had his health and his eye-sight, he did not suffer his horse to eat his hay in idleness, but rode him about to fairs, horse-races, and watering-places. From the irregularity of his diet, however, at one time gormandizing as much at a single meal, as ought to suffice for two or three days, and perhaps on the three or four following days starving himself and his household, on two or three bones of a *green* loin of mutton, and drinking nothing but cold water, he fell into habits of indigestion and flatulency; and the gradual loss, or rather deterioration of his eye-sight, added to the loss of his health, obliged him to part, although with very great reluctance, with his horse, which he sold, in good order, for more than it cost him.

Through the infirmities of age, Mr. Cooke soon found himself reduced to the necessity of applying from time to time for medical advice. But not finding such instantaneous relief, from the prescriptions of those physicians, whom he consulted, as he expected to receive, he went from one doctor to another, until he tired them all. Many are the tricks which this avaricious old man used to play, to cheat medical men of their time, and save his money. He would make no scruple to beg from some of his acquaintance, whom he knew to be subscribers, a letter for a dispensary, and clothing himself in his own old, ragged, and cast-

off apparel, would attend regularly, as a pauper, among others, to receive advice and medicines gratuitously, and for several successive weeks. At one time, he obtained a recommendation as a patient to the dispensary for the diseases of the eye and ear, in Charterhouse-square. The natural goodness and suavity of Mr. Saunders's disposition, induced him to pay every attention to Mr. Cooke, who passed himself upon him as a reduced tradesman, who had seen better days; but finding that this old man would not be satisfied, without engrossing a great deal more of his time than he could spare, he was at last induced to make some inquiry concerning his patient; and learning who he was, he read him a very serious lecture on the meanness and impropriety of his conduct, in thus obtaining gratuitously, that which was only intended for the necessitous; and acquainted him, that if he expected his future services, he must give a fee, as was usual with other gentlemen. "Very well," said Mr. Cooke, "I am willing to pay any thing in reason; but mark this, I expect to be cured first; for I always go upon the maxim of *no cure no pay*." Mr. Saunders rang the bell, desired the servant to call in the next patient in rotation, and politely wishing Mr. Cooke a good morning, desired the servant to "open the street door for the gentleman."

Another time, he became so excessively troublesome to a physician, to whom he had paid about four or five half-guineas, that the doctor at last told him, he had tried every remedy, and exerted all his skill, and could render him no farther service. "Then give me back my money, Sir," said Cooke; "Why did you rob me of my money, unless you meant to cure me?" The doctor, whose chariot was waiting at the door for him, left the old man to vent his spleen in the study, to the no small diversion of the servants, and gave orders that he never should be admitted again.

Mr. Cooke often went, without ceremony, to the houses of apothecaries, and had them called up at four or five

o'clock in the morning, to administer some medicine, for a complaint he was subject to in his bowels; for this medicine he would offer twopence; if it was refused, he would go as far as fourpence, but if sixpence was insisted on, he would go to another shop, and make the same disturbance; and if he could get nothing for his groat, he would go to a druggist's and buy a pennyworth of jalap. He once rang up the domestics of a medical gentleman at Islington, at four o'clock in a winter's morning. On the door being opened, to the question, What is your pleasure? he answered, "my *pleasure* is to see your master, for I am in *pain*." "Sir, my master has been out at a labour all night, very much fatigued; he is not well, and has not been in bed above half an hour." "Don't tell me about his labours and his being unwell; doctors must get up at all hours, well or ill. Tell him he must come down. I do not come as a pauper; I can pay for what I have." The servant went to tell his master; who sent his compliments to the gentleman, that he really was very ill, but that his assistant, a regularly bred and skilful young man, was then putting on his clothes to wait on him, and would, he was sure, supply his place, to the satisfaction of the patient. "Then," said Cooke, "he may *put off* his clothes again, and go to bed; I will have no assistant; I will see none but the master; I have plenty of money in my pocket, and am willing to pay for what I have." At length the master came, and Cooke, in his usual way, kept him three quarters of an hour, giving a detail of his complaints. The doctor said, he would make him up a small draught, that should relieve him in an instant. Being asked his charge, he said, only eighteen-pence. "Eighteen-pence!" exclaimed Cooke, "I never heard of such extortion in my life! Eighteen-pence! I thought you might have made me up something for twopence!" This said, he left the doctor to go to bed again.

Soon after he went to live in White-lion-street, he sent

for a Mr. Pigeon, a surgeon, who lived on the opposite side of the street, to examine an ulcer on his leg, which gave him a little temporary alarm, he being of a very gross habit of body. After the gentleman had duly inspected it, Mr. Cooke asked him if he could cure it, "Certainly, Sir," replied the surgeon. "How long do you think it will be before you can make a perfect cure of it?" "A month." "And how much must I give you?" Mr. Pigeon, who saw that the sore was not of any great importance, answered, "a guinea." "Very well," replied Cooke; "but mark this,—a guinea is an *immense sum of money*, and when I agree for sums of such magnitude, I go upon the system of *no cure no pay*; so if I am not cured at the expiration of the month, I pay you nothing." This was agreed to. After a diligent attendance for several days, the wound was so near being healed, that Cooke expressed himself satisfied, and would not let Pigeon see it any more. However, within two or three days of the month being expired, the old fellow got some sort of plaster with *euphorbium* in it, from a farrier, and made a new ulcer on the place where the former had been; and sending for Pigeon on the last day of the month, shewed him that his leg was not well, and that of course the guinea he had agreed for was *forfeited*! This story, the old fellow used to tell himself with great satisfaction, and called it *plucking a pigeon*.

When Doctor Lettsom was in the practice of giving audience at his own house to patients, at certain stated periods of the week, seldom a week passed, during the space of many years, without the attendance of Mr. Cooke, not in the character of the rest of the patients, who usually applied for advice, but in that of a *pauper*. After many years, long availing himself of the doctor's liberal disposition, in thus obtaining advice gratuitously, and scarcely ever going away from him, without requesting a draught of the doctor's "excellent table-beer, after his fatigue of coming from Penton-

ville," he opened his heart one day, and presented the butler with the sum of—a *shilling*! On these occasions of procuring medical advice, he was often intrusive and troublesome, by attempting to force his way to an immediate access to the doctor, in precedence of others, who had been longer waiting, and who of course had a right to admittance in succession. The butler once interfering, to prevent this intrusion, Cooke, with no little heat of temper, upbraided him with his ingratitude: "Why, you ungrateful rogue! did not I give you a shilling?" The servant very coolly answered, "Yes, Sir, I remember about nine months ago, you *did* give me a shilling, and here it is for you again," presenting it to him. Cooke instantly becoming more placid, pocketed the shilling, observing that it would be of use in buying something for him in his way home.

Whatever prescriptions he received from Dr. Lettsom, or any other physician, Cooke always carried to a druggist's, because he said he could get them made up cheaper there than at an apothecary's, and would always ask what the medicine was to cost. If it were more than a shilling, he would ask whether he could not have *half* the quantity made up; but if there were two or three different formulæ in the paper, such as a box of pills, and a draught, he would have that which was to cost the least money, and say, he would not have the other *just yet*.

In order to evince his gratitude, as he said, he told Dr. Lettsom, that he would make an ample donation to any public charity which he should recommend; after the doctor had taken pains to explain to him the objects of different charitable institutions, he fixed upon the "Humane Society, for the recovery of the apparently dead," intimating at the same time the amplitude of his fortune; and confirming it, by bringing a will in his pocket, which he submitted to the doctor's inspection. About three months before his decease, he confidentially assured Dr. Lettsom, that

besides the ample provision he had made for his numerous relations, friends, and his two maid servants, and still more ample bequests to alms-houses, he was in possession of a surplus of *forty thousand pounds*, unappropriated; and desired the doctor to specify such hospitals and dispensaries, as he deemed most in want of funds for their support, with an accurate account of the state of their finances, that this forty thousand pounds might be appropriated in proportion to their wants, and general utility. The doctor immediately set about procuring the necessary information, which after having obtained, with no small pains and trouble, he sent to Mr. Cooke; but these objects of his profound munificence were never noticed in the *real will*: and the disappointment could not but be felt by many of the friends of those public charities, to which his attention had been recommended, whose expectations were raised by fallacious promises never intended to be realized. Of all the institutions which the doctor had pointed out to him as deserving his support, the Humane Society alone was remembered; but the ample donation of five hundred pounds, set down in the will that he shewed to Dr. Lettsom, turned out to be, in his last will, a paltry bequest of fifty pounds; and to the doctor himself, for the many years plague and trouble he had with him, a plain gold ring!

Although Mr. Cooke was so very desirous of obtaining gratuitous advice, and cheap physic for himself, he would not allow either of his females to be sick or ailing, or any medical or surgical relief to be afforded them when required. His housekeeper, Mrs. Strudwick, having a very bad ulcer on her leg, which disabled her from walking, ventured to ask the advice of a medical friend. Unfortunately, it was in the presence of her master, who swore there was nothing the matter with her but laziness, and would not permit the leg even to be looked at. As the woman was in great pain, the gentleman was obliged to

make his visits early in the morning, before Cooke's time of rising; or else in those hours, when it was known that the old gentleman was gone to the Bank, to buy in stock.

After the death of Mr. Ramsbottom, of Goswell-house, the gentleman whom Mr. Cooke used to employ in the constant alterations of his wills, (and to make a new one, when he wanted to gain some particular point), the task was transferred to Mr. Jackson, of Bridgewater-square, whom Mr. Cooke had named one of his executors. To this gentleman he was an incessant torment; but, even from him, he took great care to keep one clause in his *real* will a secret, wherein he left Mr. Jackson only *one* hundred pounds, while each of his other executors were to have *two*. Mr. Jackson, however, by accident, got sight of this clause, and on his enquiring of Mr. Cooke the reason of this difference, the old man gave him the following answer: "Why, Sir, you are some years older than any of my other executors; therefore it is probable that you will die before them; now, Sir, it would be very wrong, that they, who would have to do the whole of the work after you were dead, should not have more than you, and therefore you must be content with one hundred pounds." "If that be your opinion," said Mr. Jackson, "strike my name out of your will entirely, for I will have nothing more to do with you." Mr. Cooke having thus lost this gentleman as his executor, after making enquiry for a fit person to place in his room, substituted the name of Mr. William Day, of Gracechurch-street, in the next codicil.

Mr. Cooke was not altogether unmindful of his religious duties. Until within a very few years of his death, he was a constant attendant at Divine Service on Sundays, and seldom missed attending the Sacrament. Some short time before his death, one of his executors observed to him, that he had omitted to remember his two servants in his will; the one who had faithfully served him as his housekeeper

and nurse for upwards of ten years ; the other, who used to lead him about the streets, particularly to the Exchange-pump to regale himself, and who was also a good nurse to him during the time she lived with him ; but Cooke answered, " Let them be paid their wages to the day of my death—nothing more." On the gentleman's remonstrating on the very great injustice it would be, not to leave them something, all he could obtain, was twenty-five pounds for one, and ten pounds for the other ; and even from that twenty-five, after his friend had left the room, he took the will, and struck out the word *five* !

In the year 1811, when he could no longer make his daily visits to the Bank, nor very conveniently see company at home, he took to his bed. A few select friends were admitted, and some that were *not* select, occasionally found their way into his apartment ; but they were all disappointed in their expectations. When on his death-bed he sent for several medical men, in the hope of obtaining some relief, but all knew him so well that not one would attend, except Mr. Aldridge, who resided in White-lion-street. Mr. Cooke permitted this gentleman to send some medicine. On his last visit, the old man very earnestly intreated him to say candidly, how long he thought he might live. Mr. Aldridge answered, that he *might* last six days. Cooke, collecting as much of his exhausted strength as he could, raised himself in bed, and darting a look of the keenest indignation at the surgeon, exclaimed, " and are you not a dishonest man ? a rogue ! a robber ! to serve me so ?"—" How, Sir ?" asked Mr. Aldridge, with surprize. " Why, Sir, you are no better than a pickpocket, to rob me of my gold, by sending two draughts a-day to a man, that all your physic will not keep alive above six days ! Get out of my house, and never come near me again." During the last days of his existence, he was extremely weak ; and employed his few remaining hours in arranging matters with

his executors. He died August 26, 1811. The funeral which his executors gave him, was probably more decent than the old gentleman intended it to have been.

The following is a summary of his last will and testament—

To Thomas Hammond, surgeon, of Edmonton, he gave	£ 30
To Oliver Gammon, Mr. Hammond's cousin	30
To Benjamin Holingsworth, stationer, Watling-street	20
Mr. Holingsworth's youngest daughter.....	20
The following legacies were in the 3 per ct. consols.	
To Samuel Leigh	25
Miss Leigh.....	25
Robert Overton	25
Thomas Overton	25
All the children of James Cobon, farmer, near Holt, when aged 21, each	25
Hester Provo, orphan, when 21	25
Hannah Provo, orphan, when 21	25
N. B. The interest to be applied to their education during their minority.	
Mary Gillingham, his jewels, plate, linen, furniture, diamond ring, and interest or dividends of	1000
Mary Wood, for herself and son Henry Wood, the interest of	1400
Susannah Birch, for her son Thomas Birch, a cripple, his wearing apparel, and the interest of	1400
James Groves, of Wells, in Norfolk	150
Maria Groves	150
Three children of Thomas and Eliz. Hook, 150l. each, if they attain the age of 21	450
Philippa, wife of James Clements, labourer, at Elmham, the interest of	1000
Fishmonger's Almshouses, at Bray, in Berkshire	5900
Badger's ditto, Hoxton.	1050

To Fuller's Almshouses, Old-street-road	£ 2100
Framework-knitters ditto, Kingsland-road	2100
Weaver's ditto, Old-street-road	2100
Spaniards ditto, Tottenham	1400
Reynardson's ditto, Tottenham	1400
Doughty's ditto, Norwich, 1400 <i>l.</i> but the master to receive no benefit from the dividends, as he has a salary	6600
Cooke's ditto, Norwich	1750
St. James's End ditto, Lynn, Norfolk	2300
Framingham's, or Paradise Hospital, Lynn.....	2100
Vallinger's Almshouses, South Lynn	700
Woolaston and Pouncefort's ditto, Highgate.....	2100
Norfolk and Norwich Hospital	1000
Hospital for the blind, Norwich	1000
Royal Humane Society, London, at the desire and recommendation of Dr. Lettsom, <i>only</i>	50
Ten-cells Almshouses, Exeter.....	1750
Palmer's ditto, do.....	700
Magdalen ditto, do....	2100
Horace Love, when of age	25
Two sons of William Robinson, blacksmith, when of age, 1400 <i>l.</i> each	2800
The children of Dorothy Rogers, when of age, each	1400
The children of Mary Wood (except the before mentioned Henry) when of age, each.....	1400
Four children of Hannah Betts, 1400 <i>l.</i>	5600
The children of Susannah Birch (except the be- fore mentioned Thomas) when of age, each.....	1400
The children of Mrs. Neale, wife of Collison Neale, Norfolk, when of age, each	1400
The children of William Neale, on like proviso, each	1400
The children of Maria Pamb, ditto, each	1400

To the children of William Collison, when of age, each	£ 1400
St. Mary Butts, Almshouses, Reading, (by codicil second)	1400
Kendrick's ditto, do.....do.....	875
Vachell's ditto, do.....do.....	1050
Chain-lane ditto, do.....do.....	875
Harrison's ditto, do.do.....	1400
The Butts ditto, do.....do.....	700
The children of James Cobon, in addition, do. each	25
Robert Overton, (by codicil second)	25
Thomas Overton, (ditto)	25
Thomas Johnson removed, and Mr. Burgess named executor.....	300
William Reynolds, executor	300
William Day, ditto.....	300
Elizabeth Strudwick, from 25 <i>l.</i> altered to.....	20
Mary Lovell.....	10

To each of the fourteen undermentioned persons, a plain gold ring.

Dr. Lettsom
 Mr. Mendham, 38, Islington-green
 John Hunt, Leadenhall-market
 William Love
 William Gough, Egham-hill
 Mr. Starr, Smithfield-bars
 Mrs. Poplington
 Mr. Grobb, College-hill
 Mr. Grobb, jun.
 Rev. Mr. Crowder
 Mr. Hudson, Islington-green
 Mr. Burgess
 Mr. William Day
 Mr. Reynolds

Bars to the Legacies.

Marrying before they become due.

Incontinence, or having illegitimate children.

Every legatee to produce a certificate of his or her baptism (signed by the minister and church-wardens), before payment is made.

As no legacies to the relatives or residuary legatees, viz. (William Robinson's children, Dorothy Rogers, Mary Wood, Hannah Betts, Collison Neale, Maria Plumb, and William Collison,) were to be paid, until the youngest of their children, living at the time of Cooke's death, and these only *four years* old, should arrive at the age of 21 years, much dissatisfaction was expressed among them. Accordingly the solicitors employed by the executors advised the filing an amicable bill in Chancery, not only in the hope that the Chancellor would do that which the executors could not do, namely, effect the removal of the restrictions altogether; but also to guard the executors against actions that might be expected from some of the residuary legatees, if they should pay any legacies contrary to the restrictions, which in certain cases they might be liable to do, from their peculiar nature. The bill had also another object in view, namely, to get rid of the numberless claims that were set up by various persons who had received *promises* of legacies, for their civilities, and for their property expended on Mr. Cooke for many years; as also to set aside the pretensions of certain persons, who had attempted to set up a pretended codicil, bearing date three days before Mr. Cooke's death; but which nobody before knew of, but some of the parties concerned, and to which the semblance of Mr. Cooke's signature was annexed, but no names of any witnesses. A decree was issued, soon after Mr. Cooke's death, by advice of counsel, against those persons who were to be benefited by this pretended codicil.

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20; but the account was reduced to eight, whose bodies had been recovered, viz.

1. Eleanor Cooper, 14 years of age, servant to Mr. Richard Hawes, the Tavistock Arms, Great Russell-street.—
2. Mary Mulvey, a married woman, aged 30 years.—3. Thomas Murray, aged 3 years, son to Mary Mulvey, by a former husband.—4. Hannah Banfield, aged 4 years and 4 months. 5. Sarah Batea, aged 3 years and 5 months.—
6. Ann Saville, aged 60 years.—7. Elizabeth Smith, a married woman, aged 27 years.—8. Catharine Butler, a widow, aged 65 years.

On the Thursday following, a Coroner's Inquest was held on the dead bodies, at St. Giles's work-house.—George Crick deposed, that he was store-house clerk to Messrs. H. Meux and Co. of the Horse-Shoe brewhouse, in St. Giles's, with whom he had lived 17 years. Monday afternoon, one of the large iron hoops of the vat which burst, fell off. He was not alarmed, as it happened frequently, and was not attended by any serious consequence. He wrote to inform a partner, Mr. Young, also a vat-builder, of the accident: he had the letter in his hand to send to Mr. Young, about half past five (half an hour after, the accident happened), and was standing on a platform, within three yards of the vat, when he heard it burst. He ran to the storehouse, where the vat was, and was shocked to see that one side of the brewhouse, upwards of 25 feet in height, and two bricks and a half thick, with a considerable part of the roof, lay in ruins.

The next object that took his attention was his brother, J. Crick, who was a superintendant under him, lying senseless, he being pulled from under one of the butts. He and the labourer were now in the Middlesex Hospital. An hour after, witness found the body of Ann Saville floating among the butts, and also part of a private still, both of which floated from neighbouring houses. The cellar and

two deep wells in it, were full of beer, which witness, and those under him, endeavoured to save; so that they could not go to see the accident which happened outwardly. The height of the vat that burst, was twenty-two feet; it was filled within four inches of the top, and then containing 3555 barrels of entire, being beer that was ten months brewed; the four inches would hold between 30 and 40 barrels more; the hoop which burst was 700 cwt. which was the least weight of any of twenty-two hoops on the vat. There were seven large hoops, each of which weighed near a ton. When the vat burst, the force and pressure was so great, that it stove several hogsheads of porter, and also knocked the cock out of a vat nearly as large, that was in the cellar or regions below; this vat contained 2400 barrels, all of which, except 800 barrels, also ran about; they lost in all, between 8 and 9000 barrels of beer; the vat from whence the cock was knocked out, ran about a barrel a minute. The vat that burst had been built between eight and nine years, and was kept always nearly full. It had an opening on the top about a yard square; it was about eight inches from the wall; witness supposes it was the rivets of the hoops that slipped, none of the hoops being broken, and the foundation where the vat stood not giving way.—The beer was old, so that the accident could not have been occasioned by the fermentation, that natural process being past; besides, the action would then have been upwards, and thrown off the flap made moveable for that purpose.

Richard Hawes deposed, that he lived at No. 22, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, the Tavistock-Arms, public-house; about half past five o'clock on Monday evening, witness was in his tap-room, when he heard the crash; the back part of his house was beaten in, and every thing in his cellar destroyed—the cellar and tap-room filled with beer, so that it was pouring across the street into the areas on the opposite side; the deceased, Eleanor Cooper, his

servant, was in the yard washing pots at the time the accident happened; she was buried under the ruins, from whence she was dug out about 20 minutes past eight o'clock; she was found standing by the water-butt, quite dead.

John Cummings deposed, that he was a bricklayer, and lived in Pratt's-place, Camden-town; being the owner of some houses in New-street, where the principal part of the persons who were lost, resided, he attended on the spot all day on Tuesday, to render assistance to the sufferers; Elizabeth Smith, a bricklayer's wife, was the first body they found, about twelve o'clock, in the ruins of a first-floor; Sarah Batea, a child, was discovered in about an hour afterwards, in the ruins of No. 3, New-street; Catherine Butler, a widow, Mary Mulvey, and her son, Thomas Murray, a boy three years of age, were found about four o'clock on Tuesday afternoon; Hannah Banfield, a girl about four years and a half old, with her mother, and another child, were at tea on the first-floor, the two former were washed by the flood into the ruins; the dead body of Hannah Banfield was found in the ruins about half past six; the mother was carried to the Middlesex-hospital, and the last mentioned child was found nearly suffocated in a bed in the room.

The evidence being gone through, the jury without hesitation, returned a verdict of—"Died by casualty, accidentally, and by misfortune."

In addition to the above killed, five persons were carried to the Middlesex-hospital—some of whom were dreadfully bruised, but all of them recovered, viz. John Crick, brother to the store-house clerk; Patrick Murphy, a labourer in the brewhouse; Mary Banfield, a coal-heaver's wife, who was washed out of the window whilst at tea with her daughter; and two children who were picked up almost suffocated and much bruised:—large collections were made

for the families of the sufferers. Messrs. Meux's loss was estimated at about 15,000*l*.

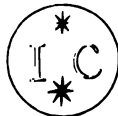
It was stated, that Government allowed the duty on what had been lost, amounting to a large sum. When the beer rushed through Mr. Hawes's house, in Great Russell-street, a person who was accidentally passing by, was thrown down by the force of the waves of beer, which rolled across the street through the mud, and dashed against the iron rails opposite: with great difficulty he saved his life.

Some of the Irish people, after the coroner had sat on the bodies, took away the bodies of their country people, and depositing them in a corner house near the brewhouse in Tottenham court-road, collected in vast numbers, and exhibited the bodies to every one who would pay for the sight. They had got such numbers into the old house, that the floor gave way and sunk with the whole into the cellar, men, women, and children, with the dead bodies. Several respectable persons that had been curious enough to go in, were amongst them; luckily no further mischief occurred than the fright, except, as the cellar lay low, it was half full of water and filth, and they all appeared in a shocking state when relieved. At last, the crowds of Irish were so great and so troublesome, in stopping everyone that passed to get money to go and view the dead, that the magistrates were obliged to appear with their officers to disperse them, which put an end to a scene of riot and confusion.

Another accident of the same kind, happened the latter end of May, 1805, at the brewhouse belonging to Mr. Searanke, at Hatfield; a vat containing 530 barrels of what is called "sixpenny beer," burst, and caused the greatest confusion; washed away the hog-styes, and did other damage. All the people of the town ran to the spot with pails, saucepans, and jugs; some used their hats, and the women their bonnets. Many were up to their middle in beer—about 100 barrels were saved, but no material accident occurred.

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The Seal



to the friends of the Will signed
JOHN RICHARDSON
and of the Will.
JOHN RICHARDSON

Published by the U.S. Navy, 11th Street, New York, N.Y.

One morning while sweeping her master's shop, she found, or pretended to find a seal, on which were the initials J. S.; this of course was applied to her own name, and here she began to shew the cloven feet. This seal was for a time thrown aside, probably while she was conjecturing what use to make of it, till at length she informed the few who reposed confidence in her, "The Spirit one day ordered her to look for it when she found not only the letters J. S. as before, but what was much more convenient for her purpose, the initials J. C. engraved in addition on it, accompanied with two stars!!! This *miracle* was soon blazoned around, and this *very probable assertion*, was the ground-work on which she built her mummery, of being visited by God.

In 1792, she vented her blasphemous plans, by pretending she had a vision from the Lord, and from thence her gift of prophecy commenced. To complete this solemn mockery, she appointed a day for a formal discussion, and as this meeting was chiefly attended by her own followers, to the amount of fifty-eight persons; it is not very surprising she should come off triumphant, which it appears she did by her publishing the following declaration:—

"I, Joanna Southcott, am clearly convinced, that my calling is of God, and my writings are indited by his spirit, as it is impossible that any spirit but an all-wise God, that is wondrous in working, wondrous in wisdom, wondrous in power, wondrous in truth, could have brought round such mysteries, so full of truth, as *is* in my writings; so I am clear in whom I have believed, that all my writings came from the spirit of the most high God.

"JOANNA SOUTHCOTT."

In 1801, it was pretended, that about the Christmas of that year, five gentlemen from different parts of the kingdom, went to Exeter to enquire into her mission; some of

these persons were clergymen—they staid there seven days, and then (as her proselytes declare), they considered her as a prophetess sent from God !!!

Notwithstanding this advertisement was signed by herself, she said she never could write but in a language and character that no one could translate, except Ann Underwood, and this was also most *accommodatingly* asserted by the aforesaid Ann, at the end of some of Joanna's asserted prophecies, commencing from the year 1792, and ending in 1806.

"Taken from Joanna Southcott's mouth by me Ann Underwood—witness, Jane Townley. "In order to prove to the world that there is no deceit in Joanna Southcott's former writings, she has taught me to read her hand writing, so that I have copied all the communications in this book myself, which are taken from them.

"Feb. 7, 1806.

ANN UNDERWOOD."

If there could for a moment exist an idea favourable to Joanna in the breast of any rational person, extracts from these pretended visions, in our possession, would convince them that all was an abominable forgery—but these extracts we dare not give. If the most vulgar language, if the most indecent allusions in which these are clothed, can be for a moment supposed emanations from the Deity, these certainly claim a pre-eminence—suffice it to say, that no single woman could ever write such stuff, for in them are such inferences, that if they are what we strongly suspect them to be, not Joanna's words, but those of Miss Underwood or Miss Townley, who speak—they are more fond of promulgating what, as virtuous spinsters—they ought never to have known. The poetical stanzas, as they would call them, would disgrace Sternhold and Hopkins themselves; but we lose time in commenting on such a farrago of blasphemy, and indecent mockery,

The weak and credulous now flocked to the standard of the imaginary Joanna, and it was strongly maintained by her followers, that she had established chapels in every county in England, and attended the management of them herself, though it was admitted that not one in 10,000 ever saw Joanna *in propria persona*. Alas! where is the man who has not his weak side. Mr. Sharp, who has engraved a portrait of Joanna in the full belief, as he said, of her being a prophetess sent from God, some time since engraved a portrait of the infatuated Brothers, with a similar inscription.

During the time Joanna's books were much coveted by the curious, the writer of this article had some communication with the publisher, Mr. P. J. Field, who then lived in Broad-court, Drury-lane, and afterwards in Holborn, where the Prophecies were sold. On one of those visits an opportunity offered in which he saw a proof sheet which had not long arrived from the printer, with the copy or MS. lying on the correcting desk. It was immediately asked if Joanna was not there? The answer was *no*—yet the marks of the corrections of the proof were wet, and the alterations were in the same hand-writing with the copy lying by it. This, with other circumstances, were sufficient to satisfy the contributor of this article, that the name of Joanna was an ideal one, adopted to suit the sinister purpose of designing people, and her prophecies manufactured by some other person or persons. From that time until the present, her pretended prophecies increased, and in many counties her followers flocked to her standard in an amazing degree, until at length a wretch of the name of Mary Bateman, a disciple of Southcott's, was induced, through the workings of a wicked spirit, and the suggestion of a disordered fancy, to commit a murder on Rebecca Perigo of Bramley, for which she suffered at Leeds, in the year

1809. For an account of the diabolical actions of this wretch, see the 4th volume of our work, page 260.

This conduct of one of the disciples of Joanna, threw some damp on the enthusiasm of her followers in that part of the world; yet her celebrity was fully kept alive in London, by pretended trials of her faith. She commenced her advertisements for meetings of disputation, on the 12th January, 1803, at Paddington, and again, December 11, 1804, at Neckinger-house, Bermondsey; and at length, inserted in the papers letters to the Regent, the Bishops, &c.; to the latter, she sent letters of invitation to enter a controversy with her; but they were so rude as to treat these invitations with the contempt they merited. Another part of this farce was thus carried on,—a chapel was opened in Duke-street, near the Obelisk, St. George's-fields, where Mr. Carpenter preached Joanna's doctrine; after which, a man of the name of Tozer, contrived to erect another new chapel, which he impiously named the House of God, near the Elephant and Castle. The inside of this place has, daubed on the walls, miserable designs, in the manner of our tea-gardens; and in the chapel where he succeeded *Mister* Carpenter, such scenes of riot and disorder took place, as obliged the magistrates to interfere, and the doors were ordered to be closed. These nuisances took place from the asseverations of Tozer, who declared from his pulpit, on Sunday, July 31, 1814, "that he was ready to take his sacrament oath, that no man had seen or spoken to Joanna Southcott since August 1813;" and ended with declaring, "the world would be soon convinced of the truth of our doctrine, for our spiritual mother will bring forth the true Messiah, before the 12th of next January." Pretended seals were sold to the true believers, and no one could be supposed to be saved, who did not possess one of these admissions into Heaven. These became also a profitable source of support to the connection; and

even many respectable persons were so far lost in infatuation, as to purchase them. The following is an exact copy of one of those precious passports to heaven, which was some-time ago *purchased* from one of her disciples, sealed up, and at last broken open. The writing is (within a *mystical circle*, about six inches diameter) in a good plain hand, to which is her own *signature*, a wretched scrawl indeed. The seals, of red wax, are outside ; one of which has the stamp melted, or pressed out, as if by warmth of the body, from wearing in the pocket ; the other has a small shabby impression, I. C. with two stars.

Name of the Disciple,
The sealed of the Lord, the elect precious,
Man's redemption,
To inherit the Tree of Life,
To be made Heirs of God, and joint Heirs
With Jesus Christ.
Dec. 1, 1804.

JOANNA SOUTHCOTT.

THE SEALS I. * C.

I. C. is perhaps intended for "Jesus Christ."

We have given a representation of the seal, over the portrait which accompanies this sketch, and also, underneath, a *fac simile* of Mrs. Southcott's hand-writing.

Among the rest of Joanna's dupes, it may not be irrelevant to mention the name of an apothecary at Highgate ; as this gentleman is one of those who supported the pregnancy of Pope Joan Southcott. So anxious was he to display his dissention from the Established Church, to which his family had resorted, that early in the reign of infatuation, he had his wife, his children, and servants, sealed with the miraculous instrument, to the great detriment of his pecuniary affairs.

As it is necessary to keep alive the feelings of vulgar

minds' with circumstances that astonish, it was promulgated, that on a certain day, the *Virgin* was to go Heaven, and Bath was fixed upon as the ground from which this female *Balloon* was to ascend. Many articles of value were sent her by the dupes of her emissaries; the things were received and carried off; but when the day arrived for her aerostatic trial, she departed through a private passage, and was heard of there no more. This circumstance did not very much injure her reputation, or she or her followers would never have dared to have struck such another master-stroke, as the annals of human ingenuity, and human infatuation, cannot parallel.

Let us no longer laugh at the credulity of our ancestors,—their Betty Cannings,—their Cock-lane Ghosts,—or disciples of Naylor. Joanna Southcott's *priests* promised to their followers, that a Messiah should be born!—That they might have full time to gull their believers in her deification, they chose not to mention this second Christmas day, but left to procrastination the opportunity of feathering their nests from the stores of their addle-pated brethren, who doubtless became pretty confident in their hopes, or they would not have suffered Messrs. Carpenter and Tozer to receive the whole of their worldly goods on such a ridiculous pretension. They argued thus: "If this visitation of the Lord does not produce a *Son* this year, then was not Jesus Christ the Son of God, born in the manner spoken of by the Virgin Mary; but if she has a Son, then, in like manner was our Saviour born." This for a society, calling themselves religious, is a tolerable, or rather intolerable specimen of blasphemous arrogance. It is presumed, however, that in this plan, as to its outward success, they had reckoned without their host, or they would have brought this scheme apparently to bear, even in despite of the watchful eye of the police. It was no doubt intended, that this poor old woman, this mean instrument of their plans, was to die, from

what they knew to be a disorder very different from that occasioned by pregnancy. Some child, in this hoped for event, would have been found, for the adopted Messiah; but she lived to expose their deceptions. The string of infatuation has been distended until it has snapt. The bubble has burst, and scarcely left a wreck behind. Early in December, 1811, at Crewkerne, two of the followers of this antiquated virgin were discovered to have been negotiating with a poor woman of that place, for one of her twin children, which they intended to forward to the metropolis, there to be announced as the true offspring of the prophetess. The fraud being prevented by the discovery, the negotiators and the prophetess were paraded about in effigy, by the populace, through the public streets.

This wretched woman, not only promised her believers a child, but assured them of a *private marriage*: the following is a nonsensical letter, which she addressed, on this occasion, to her friends:

“ Many of my believers in my visitation, as I have been informed, begin to grow impatient in their expectation, as to the marriage spoken of, not having taken place and published a long time before the child should be born; and seeing the harvest nearly ended, ‘ they appear ready to sink in the great deep,—the seas before them, and the Egyptian host behind them;’ so that where is the promise of either the marriage or the child? will soon be the cry of the public; and the believers themselves will be ready to say,—‘ the harvest is over; the day is ended, and we are not saved.’ From this I see clearly, that my enemies would soon boast and triumph, while the believers would be ready to sink and despair, if the way they are stumbled in remained without being answered and explained. In order, therefore, to do away such a state of mind in the believers, I take this opportunity of informing them, that when the marriage was

first proposed to me, it was before I had any knowledge of what would follow; I was warned that a private marriage should first take place in my own house, which afterwards was to be granted to be realized in public.

" This circumstance stumbled me, and also my friends, who were made acquainted with it, because at that time there appeared no necessity for such a private marriage to take place in haste; but now I see cause enough, from the dangers which begin to appear; so that, from my present situation, and my own feelings, I can judge of the truth of the words that are already in print. For if there be 'no son,' there will be 'no adopted father,' and no marriage to be binding; because it will be but a temporary marriage, from which death must soon release me. But who the bridegroom is, must not publicly be made known, after the marriage hath taken place, until the child is born. Thus, taking the whole into consideration, it is clear to me, that the marriage and the birth of the child may, and will most likely, take place within, perhaps, less than a day, the one before the other; therefore the believers may, from this hint, be able to form a correct judgment, and check their impatience, not to look for the *Sixth Book* immediately after the marriage shall have taken place; but that the *Sixth and Seventh Books*, to complete the wonders, as before said, will be in order, and in right time, both after the birth of the child shall have taken place.

(Signed)

" JOANNA SOUTHCOTT.

" October 21, 1814."

As soon as the wished for day approached for the alleged delivery, presents of all descriptions, as they pretended, came in unasked. Some one, they asserted, sent her a crib for the expected Messiah, made in all the taste of elegant design, and manufactured with a bed, by Seddons, of Aldersgate-street. This order, however, we have no doubt, was given by them.

selves, to render the party of greater notoriety, and that nothing might be wanting at this *glorious* accouchement, it was pretended that laced-caps, bibs, robes, mantles, pap-boats, caudle-cups, and every thing necessary for such an occasion, so poured in for the use of the expected Shiloh, as at length to oblige them, as they stated, to refuse further presents. A Bible also, in the most costly decoration, was not forgotten among the offerings of the *wise men*.

Further to strengthen this fraud, it was unblushingly asserted, that a number of medical men of the highest reputation, were called in, and the following names were made use of to favour this imposition :—Drs. R. Reece, Adams, Meullin, Wetherell, Phillips, Heaviside, Pearson, Foster, Welchman, Owen, Horf, &c. &c. Whether these gentlemen, led away by the superstition of the day, actually subscribed to these opinions, or whether their names were only made use of to cover a deception, they believed too ridiculous to attempt controverting, we know not. The venerable Dr. Sims, however, stepped forward, and in a letter in the Morning Chronicle of September 3, 1814, published a statement, declaring as follows :—“ I went to see her on August 18, and after examining her, I do not hesitate to declare, it is my firm opinion that the woman called Joanna Southcott, is not pregnant ; and before I conclude this statement, I feel it right to say, that I am convinced the poor woman labours under strong mental delusion. Having observed in the newspapers, assertions repeatedly made, that eminent *accoucheurs* have declared this woman to be pregnant, I am desirous I should not be considered in that number.”

This assertion was surely sufficient to vindicate the profession from so foul a calumny, and open the eyes of the deluded. And that she in that insane state, was incapable of writing to bishops, or challenging the learned to a combat of arguments, is as clear as the sun at noon day. It is

also plain, that some wicked and designing persons used her name as a cover for interested designs. There are many sensible persons among us, who profess to laugh at the comparative number of the deluded few; these people, perhaps are not aware, that abroad, a few persons' sentiments being often taken for those of the mass of the people, they become of no little importance. The foreign journals cast a stigma on the English, for a credulity which they do not possess:—"Are these the people," they cry, "who would beat us in arts as well as arms—who now shape their political projects according to the silly garrulity of an infatuated old woman and her followers." The *Journal de Paris*, on commenting on our conduct, with regard to this young lady of 65, heads the paragraph on this subject in words, well indeed adapted to the believers of a second Shiloh, and aptly style us—"The English gulls."

The profligacy of the disciples of Joanna, tried in vain to prop up the crazy foundation of their no longer trusted miracles—they threatened every one with a prosecution who should copy the portrait of Joanna from the one by that clever artist, but misguided man, Mr. Sharp. We have not seen that portrait, nor do we wish to see it. The plate that embellishes our work, is an exact resemblance of the deluded old woman.

Mrs. Southcott's intended accouchement was the subject of much mirth. One of the waggish tribe remarked, that the lady having caught a cold by her removal to her new habitation, had *deferred her delivery*—and another stated, that notwithstanding the fuss which had been stated about her delivery, she had got nothing for *her pains*. While this lady was thus amusing her believers in England with repeated postponements of her promised birth, an Irish woman had, without calling a miracle to her aid, or making any noise about the matter, proved to the world that there is no fixed limit for the fruitfulness of advanced age. Mrs.

Mason, then 58 years old, was safely delivered of a son!— She is the wife of a calico printer (a Scotchman), residing near Drumcondra, adjoining Dublin. It is not a little remarkable, that it was ten years since she had a child before; but the most extraordinary circumstance perhaps is, that nature denied the mother the accustomed support of her offspring. In this dilemma, her daughter, who had been brought to bed about a month, and whose child had died, offered her assistance, and nursed her young brother! It will also excite much surprise, and afford a subject of curiosity among the medical men, that Mrs. Mason, after her late delivery, recovered her hearing, of which she had been deprived for a long time previous.

At this time the newspapers contained many accounts of this sort. The following, extracted from the “*Dublin Correspondent*,” proved that Joanna’s conception, if it had been real, was no miracle:—

“A woman named Margaret Collins, has been safely delivered of a daughter; she is the wife of a labouring man, and is at present in her 59th year, as appears by the registry of the parish of Killpipe, in the county of Wicklow, having been baptized there on the 6th day of May, 1756. Both the mother and child may be seen at a small cabin on the left-hand side of Kimmage-road. Many persons in the neighbourhood having heard of the circumstance, have been to visit the poor woman, who lays no other claim to relief than her distress; she does not seek to gull the ignorant by blasphemous pretensions, as the old lady at the other side of the water does; indeed, this country does not seem possessed of a sufficient stock of gullibility for such gross deceits to be even tolerated in it. The circumstance of a woman, at the age of fifty-nine, bringing forth a child, is certainly one of an extraordinary nature; but is it therefore that the ignorant and superstitious are to be left by their rulers to be deluded and cheated by impious and barefaced

pretensions to special commissions from Heaven, &c.? The police of this country, although in general inferior to England, would not, we are assured, tolerate for a week, the anti-christian frauds which are practised in England respecting the alleged pregnancy of Joanna Southcott.

"Margaret Collins has had two husbands, and never had a child before by either. She has been attended by a midwife of the name of Brumley, who can attest the particulars respecting the birth of the child, &c. Several medical gentlemen have been, within these few days, at the dwelling of Mrs. Collins."

It seems that Joanna Southcott, when approaching to her end, either *recovered her senses or repented of her sins*. The following letter appeared in the Observer, October 30, 1814.

" TO THE EDITOR.

"Having been requested by Joanna to acknowledge her former wicked errors, I presume no publication better adapted to give publicity to this subject than 'The Observer.' I have therefore, on the part of Joanna, respectfully, and with sincere contrition to state, that for some considerable time past she has been in a state of delirium, but at length having become, as it were, herself again, being now calm and collected, and fearing that she is approaching to her latter end, hereby renounces all the wicked incantations of her former distempered brain; and she hopes that a generous public will forget the impositions and errors that she has of late endeavoured to impose upon their understanding. And she further hopes, that all good Christians will not only forgive, but will fervently join in her prayers to the Almighty, for a forgiveness of her late blasphemous doctrines and past sins.

I. TOZER."

Even after the death of Joanna Southcott, her simple believers expected a sudden resurrection. The two follow-

ing letters appeared in a second edition of a Sunday paper, which had for some time past degraded itself in the vehicle of this poor wretch's infatuation or imposture, for the sake of selling a few copies to those silly people, who would buy such trash. It appeared that the scandalous delusion which had for several months disgraced the metropolis, and even the character of the times we live in, was now at an end :

" Death of Mrs. Southcott. Tuesday afternoon.

TO MR. STOKES.

" SIR—Agreeable to your request, I send a messenger to acquaint you, that Joanna Southcott died this morning, precisely at four o'clock. The believers in her mission, supposing that the vital functions are only suspended for a few days, will not permit me to open the body until some symptom appears, which may destroy all hopes of resuscitation.

" I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

" *Piccadilly, Dec. 27, 1814,*

RICHARD REECE."

(CIRCULAR).

" SIR—As you desired to be present at Mrs. Southcott's accouchement, had it taken place, as was then expected, the friends consider it as their duty to inform you, and all the medical gentlemen who had that intention, that to all appearance she died this morning, exactly as the clock struck four.

" Care is taken to preserve warmth in the body, as she directed : and it is the wish of the friends that you will see her in her present state.

" ANN UNDERWOOD.

" *38, Manchester-street, Tuesday,*
Dec. 27, 1814."

On Saturday, Dec. 31, at an early hour. a number of

people assembled opposite the house in Manchester-street, where Joanna Southcott lay dead, and the most zealous of the followers did not hesitate even then to pronounce their positive conviction of her re-animation during the day—these predictions, however, to the mortification of the deluded multitude, were destined to disappointment. The prescribed period of four days and nights elapsed, and so far was the body from exhibiting appearances of a temporary suspension of animation, that it began to display a discoloration, which at once brought home to conviction the fact, that the wretched Joanna was but mortal, and like other mortals, subject to decay. The hopes of her friends being thus frustrated, preparations were made to perform that operation which she had herself directed, namely, to dissect her remains. A summons was issued to the surgeons, who had expressed a desire to be present, and at two o'clock fifteen gentlemen had assembled, including Messrs. Reece, Want, Clark, Sims, Adams, Taunton, and nine others. Beside these professional gentlemen, there were Parson Tozer, Colonel Harwood, and one or two other of Joanna's followers. Ann Underwood was in the anti-room, and seemed deeply affected, not alone at the awful situation of her friend, but at the disappointment of all her celestial hopes. The room in which the operation took place, was that in which Joanna had slept. From the putrescent state of the corpse the smell was dreadfully offensive, and it required all the aid of tobacco smoke and burnt vinegar, to render the place at all to be borne.

The body having been placed upon a table, Mr. Reece and Mr. Want proceeded to the performance of their disgusting, but required task. The result of this examination was—First, that there was no *Shiloh*; next, that there was no disease of the *uterine organs*, as imagined by Dr. Sims;—thirdly, that the womb, instead of being enlarged, was remarkably small and reduced, as might be expected in an

unmarried female of 64. The intestines were much distended by flatulency, and hence that protuberance, which led to the conclusion of pregnancy. The *omentum* (which in animals is called the caul), was loaded with fat, and a very considerable quantity of *calculi* or stones, were found in the gall bladder. Reports having been circulated as to the former pregnancy of the subject, a particular examination took place for the purpose of deciding that point, but from all that appeared, there was no foundation for such an assertion. Another report existed, that her death had been occasioned by poison; and the coroner had expressed his determination to summon a jury to enquire into the fact. To prevent this unnecessary proceeding, the medical gentlemen present signed a certificate, stating, that her dissolution was produced by natural causes. The curiosity of the profession having been gratified by this inspection, they took their departure, and the result having soon become public, the street was for a time in an uproar. Those of the followers, who anxiously waited the event, skulked off in great tribulation, and were happy to escape the view of the populace, who were outrageous towards any person whom they suspected of adhering to the doctrines of the prophetess. This excusable indignation had in the early part of the morning, nearly proved fatal to an old lady, who, with a most demure and sanctified countenance, rapped at the late Joanna's door with intent to make enquiries respecting her re-animation. No sooner was she suspected to be a disciple, than she was assailed with mud and filth.

After the dissection, the body was put in a plain coffin by the undertaker's men, in the presence of three gentlemen. From the putrefaction which had taken place, the stench was most intolerable. In consequence, when the lid was screwed down, pitch was applied to the edges and rim, to confine and prevent the egress of the *miasmata*. While this was performing, the strictest injunctions of secrecy were

given to all present. At twelve o'clock on the same night, the crowd having retired from the street, the coffin was carried by four men to Mr. Moore's, the undertaker, corner of Rathbone-place, Oxford-street. Here it remained during Sunday, Jan. 1, 1815. On Monday afternoon, about two o'clock, it was put into a hearse, drawn by two horses, without the usual sable ornament of feathers, to favour the belief, had it been recognized, that it did not contain a corpse, but was only going to receive and convey one. The hearse, followed by three gentlemen in a coach and pair, then proceeded to Mary-le-bone Upper Burying-ground, near Kilburn, where it was interred; and the usual church service repeated by the clergyman. The few people whom curiosity had attracted round the grave, had not the slightest suspicion that the coffin which was lowered down contained the remains of Joanna Southcott. In fact, such precautions were taken, that it was impossible the secret could prematurely transpire. It was known to none of her followers, and scarcely to any of her late confidants.—The three gentlemen who followed the corpse to the grave, were muffled up more than is customary even to mourners: they wore great coats, which were buttoned up to the chin, black cloaks standing high in the collar, handkerchiefs tied round the lower part of the face, and their hats pulled over their eyes. So completely had they succeeded in disguising themselves, that not a feature was visible: they abstained from all conversation, so that no one could recognize their persons. On their road to the place of interment, they were joined by a fourth person, equally well disguised as themselves, and who did not separate from them. The last was conjectured to have been Mr. Tozer.

It is astonishing the number of people who were weak enough to place an implicit faith in the promised Shiloh: the following authentic anecdotes are selected as proofs of their infatuation:—

"In the Court of Common Pleas, an action was brought by a Mr. Ditchman against one Goldsmith, both inhabitants of Gravesend, to recover a bet of 200*l.* The agreement was in these words:—'I bet 200*l.* against Mr. Ditchman's 600*l.*, that Mrs. Joanna Southcott is delivered of a male child before the 1st of November, 1814. (Signed) R. Goldsmith.' Serjeant Onslow, for the defendant, who was one of the preachers of Joanna, contended that this was one of those indelicate and immoral cases which ought not to be inquired into. Chief Justice Gibbs asked if he had any precedent; and the Serjeant replying in the negative, Serjeant Best said, he had subpoenaed the lath-render, Tozer, to prove that Mrs. Southcott had not been delivered of a male child; but unfortunately he was *paying* his creditors in the King's Bench Prison; he would, however, call Dr. Reece, who stated, that Joanna died without being a mother.—That he did not know whether she was married or not; but that she passed for a single woman, and constantly averred she should give birth to a young Shiloh. The Chief Justice now said there being no proof of her being a married woman, he would not suffer this cause to proceed further. The record was therefore withdrawn."

"A clergyman likewise, in his bewildered fancy and belief, engaged to give up his living, if Shiloh was not born at the promised period."

"Another of Joanna's followers, who was a shoemaker in Bermondsey, undertook to make shoes for all his customers, upon those conditions, that if Shiloh was born by the appointed time, they were to pay double price, if not, they were to pay nothing for their shoes and boots: unfortunately for him, no Shiloh was born, and he ruined himself by his speculation."

Mechanics with large families, and servants who had no other means than what were derived from their wages, alike contributed to the maintenance of this imposture, to their

own evident injury, and that of their distressed relatives. It is a fact, that 20*l.* was sent by a tradesman confined in the King's Bench prison, and who afterwards took the benefit of the Insolvent Act.

When we consider Joanna Southcott's *incapability of writing*, what Ann Underwood and Mrs. Townley have asserted at the end of her prophecies in 1806, cannot be correct. Indeed, Joanna's Will is a proof that much artifice has been employed. We shall conclude this article with a copy of the Will, against which Joanna's brother put in a *caveat*, on the ground of his sister's insanity, but it is supposed that the persons concerned, have by some means or other persuaded him (who is also a religious character), to withdraw his opposition.

Although these persons held back several papers mentioned in the Will and Codicil, they have reluctantly brought a few forward, by which it appears that some are to receive gifts of trifles, and others to have those presents which they sent on the supposed accouchement, returned.

THE WILL.

“ I Joanna Southcott, now resident at No. 17, Weston-place, in the parish of St. Pancras, in the county of Middlesex, do make this my last Will and Testament, in manner and form following :—First, I resign and commend my soul into the hands of my merciful Creator, Almighty God. I request to be decently interred by my executor, hereafter named : having no other property to leave at my death, only my share in the houses left to me by the late Mr. Cosins, out of which share, I give and bequeath to my brother William Southcott, the sum of ten pounds a-year, during his life, but not to his heirs : I give and bequeath to my sister, Susannah Carter, the sum of ten pounds a-year, during her life : I likewise give and bequeath to each of them, the sum of ten pounds for mourning, at my death : I give and be-

queath the sum of ten pounds to Sarah Southcott, my brother Joseph Southcott's widow; and likewise the sum of ten pounds to Susanna Southcott, her daughter, to be paid in six months after my decease; and the sum of fifteen pounds, to be paid to the said Susannah Southcott, daughter of Joseph Southcott, when she is at the age of 21 years. All the remaining part and share, arising from the aforesaid houses, I give and bequeath unto Mrs. Jane Townley, and Mrs. Ann Underwood, for their sole use and benefit; and I do hereby nominate and appoint the aforesaid Mrs. Ann Underwood, my whole and sole executrix.

“ JOANNA SOUTHCOTT.

“ June 26, 1813.

Witness to the execution of
the above written Will,

WILLIAM OWEN PUGHE,
THEODORE TURPIN,

MARY PILBOROUGH,
ELLEN TOLHURST,

Witness to the execution of
the above written Will.”

“ This is a Codicil, added to my above Will, this fourth day of November, 1814, to explain certain contingencies, not provided for therein: In the first place, it is necessary to explain, that Mrs. Townley, Mrs. Underwood, and myself, have a joint interest in the books which I have published, and all debts and credits appertaining thereto: therefore, in respect to such joint concern, I leave it wholly to the honor of those my two friends, to set apart my third of such concern, after my decease, leaving issue, and turn it over into the hands of my trustees, hereinafter named: In the second place, with respect to presents made by my friends, of monies, various articles of plate, apparel, and other things, as entered in a book, kept for that purpose, and intended for the male child, which I announced would be born of me: I direct that such presents be also turned over into the

hands of my trustees in trust, if I die without issue, for them to return such presents into the hands of the givers of them respectively: thirdly, if I should leave such a promised child, living at my decease, my direction is, with respect to the third part of the interest which I have, under the will of the late James Cosins, in the property, consisting of certain houses, recited in my above will, to be bequeathed to Jane Townley and Ann Underwood, that my said bequest be revoked, and is hereby revoked accordingly; and that the said third part of my interest in the said houses, be also placed in the hands of my trustees: and, fourthly, I hereby direct, if I leave issue aforesaid, that my trustees shall, for the interest of such child, and on his behalf, manage the said third part of the proceeds from the said books, after first deducting therefrom a sufficient sum, to cover some tokens of love from me to my intimate friends, as particularized in a certain paper; also, all the said presents; also, the said third part of my interest in the said houses, and all other property I may die possessed of, and not otherwise disposed of in my above will: and lastly, to carry into effect such trusts as are mentioned in the codicil, I name and appoint James Spring, John Hows, Richard Goldsmith, and William Owen Pughe, to be trustees for that purpose.

“ JOANNA SOUTHCOTT.

“ *November 4th, 1814.*

Witness to this Codicil,

JOHN TOLHURST,
ELIZABETH DREW,
TOBIAS LOVE.”

The names of the friends to whom I, Joanna Southcott, wish to have something that belongs to me, of wearing apparel, to be given to them, as a token of my love, in 1813, when I was ordered to buy new clothes for the sake of my female friends.

The following names, here mentioned, I wish to have something belonging to me, both men and women, if I die.

Mrs. Carder, Leicester-square ; Mrs. Turpin, Greenwich ; Mrs. Hows, Miss Coy, Mrs. Taylor, Exeter ; Miss Eveligh, Exeter ; Mrs. Luscombe, Exeter ; Mrs. Walker, Mrs. B. Wood, Mrs. C. Wood, Miss Wood, Mrs. Barnard, Mrs. Drew, Mrs. Red, Mrs. Bevey, Miss Roberts, Painswick, and her brothers ; Mrs. Foley, Miss Smith, Princes-street ; Mrs. Wetherall, Mrs. Harwood, Mrs. Owen, Mrs. Halhed, Mrs. Goldsmith, Mrs. Tolhurst, (William), Mrs. Sharpe, Mr. Spring, Mr. Theodore Turpin, Mrs. Tozer, Mr. Hirst, Mr. Turner, Mr. Senior, Mr. Bruce, Mrs. Love, Mrs. Hugh Carder, Mr. Malcolm, Mr. Smith, Princes-street, and his brothers, Mr. Smith, Lord Darnley, Mrs. John Tolhurst, Gravesend ; Mrs. Garland, Mr. Nesbit, Mrs. Troup, Miss Kent, Mr. Waring, Twickenham ; Mrs. Baker, Ilminster.

TOKENS OF LOVE from the Friends, for the expected SHILOH, and to be returned, according to the Will.

Mrs. Goldsmith, a cap
— Barnard, do.
— Good, a lace do.
— Allen, do.
— Julien, a cap
— Clark, do.
— Bury, a lace do.
— Knighton, do.
Susan Southcott, a cap
Mrs. Walker, do.
— Phillips, a laced cap
— Dean, a cap
— Yorkshire, do.
Miss Wood, a robe

Mrs. Hider, a frock
— Chalmwood, a robe
— Stafford, do.
— Warner and her sister, do.
— Broad, a skirt
The friends at Bath, a robe
Mrs. London, Bath, a robe
— Jowet, Yorkshire, do.
— Lucas, a skirt and a shirt
— Pilbro, four shirts
— Walker, a shirt
— Crossley, Yorkshire, two shirts
Miss Eveligh, a satin mantle

Mrs. Dowthwaite, a hat	Mr. Williams, 3 <i>l</i> .
— Wetherell, a kerseymere mantle	— Greenham, two silver cups
Miss Wetherell, a white satin pincushion	— Walker, a stool
Mrs. Box, do.	— King, a robe
Mr. Makay, do. on a stand	Mrs. Aldous, a pin-a-fore
Mrs. Tolhurst, Gravesend, a shirt	Mr. Pilbro, a deal box
— Salmon, do.	Mrs. Pilbro, two night caps
— Dean, do.	— Perrin, a morning robe
— Garland, do.	— Hirrol, a cap
— Smith, do.	Friends at Twickenham, a cambric robe, lace cap
Miss Tolhurst, do.	Mrs. Randal, a flannel petticoat
Mrs. Sarah Dean, do.	— Haddock, a robe
— Aldous Red, a pincushion	— Rooke, do.
— Golding, a basket	— Lee, do.
— Doyle and her mother, a pap-boat (silver)	— Baker, a white beaver hat
— Freeman, a silver mug	Little girl, two roses
Mr. Wetherell, a guinea (Qu. Elizabeth's)	Mrs. Tharpe, two pair shoes and stockings
— Spurden, half a guinea, and 1 <i>l</i> s. in silver	Mr. Parsons, white satin shoes
— Baker, five guineas	Mrs. Anstead, 2 <i>l</i> . in silver
Mrs. Prince, one guinea	Mr. Freeman, one guinea
— Goldsmith, six guineas	Mrs. Taylor, 1 <i>l</i> . in silver
Mr. Nathaniel Wetherell, a Swedish dollar	Mr. and Mrs. Tozer, a pap-boat
— and Mrs. Kills, one guinea	Mrs. Martin, a basket and rose do. a pincushion
— and Mrs. Croudy, 1 <i>l</i> . 2 <i>s</i> .	— Harris, a morning gown, six napkins.
Mr. Osmond, 18 <i>s</i> .	Mr. and Miss Smith, Mr. Malkin, an elegant mantle
Mr. Baker, Gadison, one guinea	Mrs. Troup, a sash for do.
— Wilkins, 12 <i>s</i> .	Miss Kent, white satin shoes
	Master Troup, a box

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| <p>Mrs. Archer, a flannel gown
 — Tuck, a small foreign gold coin
 — Carder, a robe, and lace cap
 Ann Kent, a pair of worsted shoes
 Ann Jones, a piece of muslin
 Mrs. Macmilon, a cloth hat
 — Box, a robe
 — Carter, do.
 Mr. Manton and Mr. Weathersby, a silver cup
 Mrs. Hays, a silver boat
 — Malin, a little silver box, with two guineas
 — Payne, a pincushion, covered with velvet
 Mr. Bacon, two dollars; his daughter, a lace rose
 Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, a candle cup, and silver spoon
 Ann Yearsley, a flannel
 Mrs. Messenger's friend, a rose, sash, and ribbon
 — Weslar, a robe
 — Serl, a cap
 — Ben. Sankey, 2 bed-gowns, and one dozen napkins
 — Wright, two doz. napkins
 — Ellis two bed-gowns, one dozen napkins
 Mr. and Mrs. Kingsley, three pin-a-fores
 Mrs. Raish, a silver spoon
 — Harvey, a dollar</p> | <p>Mrs. Hanson, do.
 — Harvey's two children, a rose, and sash
 John Thomas Risby, a cut glass mug
 Mrs. Ladbroke, a white rose
 Mr. Ladbroke, do.
 Mrs. Coupland, a pair of worsted shoes
 — Harris, a flannel petticoat
 — Ware, a shirt
 — Saxon, a flannel petticoat
 Mr. Saxon, a bed-gown
 Mrs. Pitts, a small silverspoon
 Mrs. Densham, a silver coral
 Mr. & Mrs. Frost, two shirts
 Eleanor Kennedy, 2 flannels
 William Harvey, 4s. 6d.
 Ann Dukes, a small gold chain
 Sarah Lewis, a bed gown
 Sarah Pugh, a flannel do.
 Rose Hasel, six shirts
 Mrs. Tupper, a china bason
 — Jarvis, 1l. 1s. and a flannel
 — Mrs. Roberts, six napkins, and a blanket
 — Ogle, do.
 — Davis, a rose
 — Peck, a square of flannel
 — Bradford, a pair of worsted shoes
 — Gives, a cotton band
 — Martin and Mrs. Royal, 1 doz. napkins</p> |
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| Mr. and Mrs. Booth, a pair of shoes | Mrs. Barton, six napkins |
| Mrs. Wood, a bottle and bason | — Scott, flannel blanket and cap |
| Do. children, two little mugs | — Riggiot, two caps |
| Mrs. Williams, three nutmegs | — St. John, two morning gowns |
| — Cannon, a flannel skirt | — Douthwait, six night caps, and 12 napkins |
| — Jackson, two shirts | Mr. Makay, 2l. 2s. |
| William and Mary Goodman, a glass mug | Mrs. Younghusband, silver star and chain |
| Mr. and Mrs. Smith, a pair of tea-tongs | Alfred Goldsmith, a pretty sixpence |
| Mrs. Osmond's sister, a silver boat | Ann Goldsmith, do. shilling |
| — Baillis, a shirt | Mrs. Tolhurst, 1l. 1s. |
| Mr. Harvey, 10s. 6d. | — Pittemore, silver spoon |
| His brother, 1l. 1s. | Mr. Troup, bee-hive |
| Henry Harvey, 10s. 6d. | — Wm. Troup, a sugar bason |
| Mrs. Harvey, 2 flannel skirts | Mrs. Eyre, a frock |
| — Pye, a shirt | Mr. Cartwright, a pair of shoes |
| Hannah Wyatt, 3s. | — and Mrs. Turney, a hat |
| Mary Powel, ditto | Mrs. Harwood, a silver barrel |
| Mary Ann Powel, a cap | Mr. Pultney, a comb |
| Hannah James, a flannel gown | — Freeman, a silver cup |
| Mary Hasey, cotton stockings | Mrs. Drew, a comb |
| Joseph and Catherine Collins, and B. Careless, a tortoiseshell box | — Tolhurst, a pap-spoon |
| Timothy Pearse and friends, a purple robe | Mr. Tolhurst, a table do. |
| Mr. and Mrs. Hollis, a silver boat | — John Tolhurst, do. |
| Mr. Sherwood, a silver fruit dish | — Hugh Carder, a desert do. |
| Mrs. Lashey & family, a robe | Miss Deborah Goldsmith, a watch-holder |
| | — Mary Goldsmith, do. |
| | Mr. Hows' choir, a silver ladle |

Mr. Toley, a desert spoon	Mrs. Baker, Ilminster, bed-
— Roberts, ditto	gown, and flannel
Mrs. Roberts, two shirts	Mr. Ingall & Mr. Lewis, a
Jane Hows, and Joanna	desert-spoon
Hows, two shirts	Mrs. Spurden, a silver mug
Mrs. Ivory, a small silver	— Cocks, a knife and fork
saucepan	— Gladdish's shepherd, a
Mr. Lawenson, a larger do.	crook
Mrs. Owen, a silver candle-	— Esam, a laced cap
stick	— Bowerman, ditto
Mr. Owen, a silver medal	A blind woman, 6d.
Miss Owen, a piece of gold	Ann Holmes, a pair of socks
coin	Elizabeth Kewe, ditto
Mr. and Mrs. Coles, a silver	Mrs. Robson, two flannel
spoon, knife and fork	gowns
— and Mrs. Beresford, 2 caps	— Baker, a pair of blue
— Symons and son, a silk	silk shoes
covering	— Wilson, a pair of straw
— Chanter, 2l. 2s.	coloured ditto
From Twickenham, a purple	— Barnby, a hat and feather
robe, lace cap	— Clark, two shirts
From Gravesend and Chat-	— Bluc, a ribbon rose
ham, a silver tea pot, su-	Sarah Trapstick, a ditto
gar-bason, and a milk jug	William Beadle, a flower
Mrs. C. Wood, a silver mug	Eliz. Elsom, a cap
Mary Brett, half a guinea	Jane Broadfield, a box
Miss Taylor, two shirts	Susanna Seirs, a pair of shoes
Mrs. Bushell, a night cap	Thomas Grun, a pin
— Baker, a shirt	Mrs. Lourik, a coral.
Some few other articles of bady linen that were ticketed, were	
packed in the box, and not entered into the book, and	
some articles of plate that were sent, after Joanna South-	
cott left her house, 17, Weston-place.	
Proved with the Codicils, 28th of April, 1815, by the oath	
of Ann Underwood, the sole executrix.	
£800.	3A 2

OWEN FARREL,

THE IRISH DWARF.

THIS diminutive man was born in the county of Cavan in Ireland, in the year 1716; he was in the service of a Colonel at Dublin, as footman, and was afterwards carried about the country for a show, being but three feet nine inches high, yet so surprisingly strong, that he could carry four men, two sitting astride on each arm, and perform several other feats of strength; at last he came to London, where he begged about the streets. Some time before his death, he sold his body to Mr. Omrod, a surgeon, for a weekly allowance, who, after his dissolution, made a skeleton of his bones, which was preserved in the museum of the Duke of Richmond, but must afterwards have been distributed, for Dr. Hunter had one of his thigh bones in his museum, measuring only nine inches and a half. Granger says of him :—" Nature deviated widely from its usual walk, in giving this dwarf but little more than half of the stature of a man, with the strength of two." Another writer tells us :—" He was so gross and massive in proportion to his height, that he presented us with a very disagreeable image." Owen always appeared dressed in a leather coat, carrying his hat in one hand, and walking with a large stick, with a curved head to it, in his other—thus equipped, he never failed to draw attention, and was continually hunted about by the idle and mischievous boys, though his formidable walking-stick made them keep at a respectful distance. There is no account of Farrel's death, but the year 1742, is engraved on a print of him, with a sketch of St. Paul's, Covent-garden, in the background; but in that he appears more like a giant than a dwarf; the present portrait of him, is engraved from a very fine original painting of him, nearly the size of life, now in the possession of the publisher of this work, 1815.

LOCUSTS.

THIS account of the Locusts which did vast damage in Wallachia, Moldavia, and Transylvania, in 1747-8; and of some swarms of which, in July and August, 1748, passed into Hungary and Poland, was written

BY A GENTLEMAN RESIDING IN TRANSYLVANIA.

It is certain, that the locusts came into Transylvania from Wallachia and Moldavia, particularly through those narrow openings in the mountains, commonly called 'passes;' the most considerable of which, in the neighbourhood of Clausenburg, is called 'the Pass of the Red Tower;' and through others not far from Carlstadt, which are common roads from Transylvania into Moldavia and Wallachia.

The first swarms entered into Transylvania in August, 1747; these were succeeded by others, which were so surprisingly numerous, that when they reached the Red-Tower, they were full four hours in their passage over that place; and they flew so close, that they made a sort of noise in the air, by the beating of their wings against each other. The width of the swarm was some hundreds of fathoms, and its height or density may be easily imagined to be more considerable, inasmuch as they hid the sun, and darkened the sky, even to that degree, when they flew low, that people could not know one another at the distance of twenty paces. But as they were to fly over a river that runs in the vallies of the Red Tower, and could find neither resting-place nor food, being at length tired with their flight, one part of them lighted on the unripe corn on this side of the Red Tower, such as millet, Turkish wheat, &c.; another part pitched on a low wood; where having miserably wasted the produce of the land, they continued their journey, as if a signal had been actually given for a march. The guards of the Red Tower

attempted to stop their irruption into Transylvania by firing at them ; and indeed where the balls and shot swept through the swarm, they gave way and divided ; but having filled up their ranks in a moment, they proceeded on their journey.

They were of different forms, according to their different ages ; for when, in the month of September, some troops of them were thrown to the ground by great rains, and other inclemency of the weather, and thoroughly soaked with wet, they crept along in quest of holes in the earth, dung, and straw ; where being sheltered from the rains, they laid a vast number of eggs, which stuck together by a viscid juice, and were longer and smaller than what is commonly called an ant's egg, very like grains of oats. The females, having laid their eggs, die like the silk-worm ; and the Transylvanians found by experience, that that swarm which entered into the fields by the Red Tower, did not seem to intend remaining there, but were thrown to the ground by the force of the wind, and there laid their eggs : a vast number of which being turned up, and crushed by the plough, in the beginning of the ensuing spring yielded a yellowish juice.

In the spring of 1748, certain little blackish worms were seen lying in the fields and among the bushes, sticking together, and collected in clusters, not unlike the hillocks of moles or ants. As nobody knew what they were, so there was little or no notice taken of them ; and in May they were covered by the shooting of the corn sown in the winter. But the subsequent June discovered what those worms were ; for then, as the corn sown in the spring was pretty high, these creatures began to spread over the fields, and become destructive to the vegetables by their numbers. Then at length the country people, who had slighted the timely warning given them, began to repent of their negligence ; for, as these insects were now dispersed all over

the fields, they could not be extirpated without injuring the corn.

At that time they differed little or nothing from common grasshoppers ; having their head, sides, and back of a dark colour, with a yellow belly, and the rest of a reddish hue. About the middle of June, according as they were hatched, sooner or later, they were generally a finger's length ; or somewhat longer, but their shape and colour still continued.

Towards the end of June they cast off their outward covering ; and then it plainly appeared that they had wings, very like the wings of bees, but as yet unripe and unexpanded ; and their body was very tender, and of a yellowish green ; then, in order to render themselves fit for flying, they gradually unfolded their wings with their hinder feet, as flies do ; and as soon as any of them found themselves able to use their wings, they soared up ; by flying round, the others were provoked to join them ; and thus their numbers increasing daily, they took circular flights of 20 or 30 yards wide, until they were joined by the rest, and, after miserably laying waste the native fields, they proceeded elsewhere in large troops.

Wherever those swarms happened to pitch, they spared no sort of vegetable ; they ate up the young corn, and the very grass, but nothing was more dismal to behold than the lands in which they were hatched ; for they so greedily devoured every green thing there, before they would fly, that they left the ground quite bare. There was nothing to be feared in those places to which this plague did not reach before the autumn ; for the locusts have not strength to fly to any considerable distance ; but in the months of July and August, and the beginning of September ; and even then, in changing their places of residence, they seem to tend to warmer climates.

Different methods of destruction are to be employed, accord-

ing to the age and state of these insects ; for some will be effectual as soon as they are hatched ; others when they begin to crawl ; and others, again, when they begin to fly. And experience has taught the Transylvanians, that it would have been of great service, to have diligently sought out the places where the females lodged ; for nothing was more easy, than carefully to visit those places in March and April, and to destroy their eggs or little worms, with sticks or briars ; or if they were not to be beaten out of the bushes, dunghills, or heaps of straw, to set fire to them, as it has been in other places. But in the summer, when they have marched out of their spring quarters, and have invaded the corn-fields, &c. it is almost impossible to extirpate them, without thoroughly thrashing the whole piece of land that harbours them with sticks or flails, and thus crushing the locusts with the produce of the land.

Finally, when the corn is ripe, or nearly so, there is no other method of getting rid of them, or even of diminishing their numbers, but to surround the piece of ground with a multitude of people, who might frighten them away with bells, brass vessels, and all other sorts of noises. But even this method will not succeed, till the sun is pretty high, so as to dry the corn from the dew ; for otherwise they will either stick to the stalks, or lie hid under the grass. But when they happen to be driven to a waste piece of ground, they are to be beaten with sticks or briars ; and if they gather together in heaps, straw or litter may be thrown over them, and set on fire. But this method seems rather to lessen their numbers, than totally destroy them ; for many of them lurk under the grass, or thick corn, and in the fissures of the ground, from the sun's heat : hence it is requisite to repeat this operation several times, in order to diminish their numbers, and consequently the damage done by them. It will likewise be of use, where a large troop of them has pitched, to dig a long trench, of an ell in width and depth, and place

several persons along its edges, provided with brooms, and such like things, while another numerous set of people form a semicircle, that takes in both ends of the trench, and encompasses the locusts, and by making the noise above-mentioned, drive them into the trench; out of which, if they attempt to escape, those on the edges are to sweep them back, and then crush them with their brooms and stakes, and bury them, by throwing in the earth again.

But when they have begun to fly, there should be horsemen on the watch in the fields, who, on any appearance of the swarm taking wing, should immediately alarm the neighbourhood by a certain signal, that they might come and fright them from their lands, by all sorts of noise; and if tired with flying, they happen to pitch on a waste piece of land, it will be very easy to kill them with sticks and brooms in the evening, or early in the morning, while they are wet with the dew, or any time of the day, in rainy weather, for then they are not able to fly.

It has been already noticed, that if the weather be cold or wet in autumn, they generally hide themselves in secret places, where they lay their eggs, and then die; hence great care should be taken at this time, when the ground is freed of its crop, to destroy them, before they lay their eggs.

In the month of September, 1748, certain intelligence was received, that several swarms of locusts came out of Wallachia into Transylvania, through the usual inlets, and took possession of a tract of land in the neighbourhood of Clausberg, near three miles in length; where it was not possible to save the millet and Turkish wheat from these devourers.

The eggs of these animals, which have been preserved in dry mould, have produced nothing; but those that have been preserved in mould moistened with water from time to time, gave early in the spring of 1749, some of these grasshoppers. The little ones were, soon after they came

forth, of the size nearly of ordinary flies : they had already the form of grasshoppers, but they had as yet no wings. This observation shews, that the author of the foregoing account was mistaken, when he says, " these insects had at first the form of grubs or small worms." They change their skins several times, but they do not acquire wings till they have changed for the last time.

The grasshoppers taken in England, in 1748, have been compared with those that have been sent over from Hungary and Poland that same year, and they have been found to be perfectly of the same kind. There are in Sir Hans Sloane's collection, (see vol. 1. page 29, of his History of Jamaica), some of the same sort of locusts, or grasshoppers, preserved in spirits of wine, and which were taken up here, above 30 years before, and are exactly like those from Egypt and Barbary.

Phil. Trans. Vol. 46, p. 30.

Gent. Mag. 1749, p. 431.

A GIRL WITH A HARE'S FACE.

March, 1764. At the beginning of this month, a girl was born near Toulon, in France, whose whole face resembled a hare, excepting her ears ; she was otherwise fair and well shaped. Her mother declares, that she had a strong inclination to eat the raw heart of a hare, which her husband brought home one day, during the early part of her pregnancy, but could not prevail with herself to make known her desire. Another very remarkable fact is related, of a lady who was in the habit of giving charity to a poor man who had lost his right arm : she was soon after delivered of a son, who wanted his right hand ; and when this son was grown to maturity and married, had also a son born without a hand.

Annual Register, 1764, p. 61,

THE FOUNTAIN TREE,

FROM DR. GLASS'S HISTORY OF THE CANARY ISLANDS.

THERE are only three fountains of water in the island of Hierro, wherein the fountain-tree grows, but the supply of water from them is very scanty. The district in which the tree stands, is called 'Tigulahe,' near to which, and in the cliff, or steep rocky ascent that surrounds the whole island, is a narrow gulley, which commences at the sea, and continues to the summit of the cliff, where it joins or coincides with a valley, which is terminated by the steep front of a rock. On the top of this rock grows a tree called in the language of the ancient inhabitants, 'Garse, Sacred or Holy Tree,' which for many years has been preserved sound, entire, and fresh. Its leaves constantly distil such a quantity of water as is sufficient to furnish drink to every living creature in Hierro; nature having provided this remedy for the drought of the island. It is situated about a league from the sea. Nobody knows of what species it is, only that it is called Til. It is distinct from other trees, and stands by itself; the circumference of the trunk is about twelve spans, the diameter four, and in height from the ground to the top of the highest branch, forty spans; the circumference of all the branches together is about one hundred and twenty feet. The branches are thick and extended; the lowest commence about the height of an ell from the ground: its fruit resembles the acorn, and tastes something like the kernel of a pine apple, but is softer and more aromatic; the leaves of this tree resemble those of the laurel, but are larger, wider, and more curved; they come forth in a perpetual succession, so that the tree always remains green. On the north side of the tree, are two large tanks or cisterns, of rough stones, or rather one cistern divided, each half being 20 feet square, and 16 spans

in depth. One of these contains water for the drinking of the inhabitants, and the other they use for their cattle, washing, and such like purposes. Every morning, near this part of the island, a cloud, or mist arises from the sea, which the south or easterly winds force against the fore-mentioned steep cliff, so that the cloud having no vent but by the gutter, gradually ascends it, and from thence advances slowly to the extremity of the valley, while it is stopped and checked by the front of the rock which terminates the valley, and then rests upon the thick leaves and wide spreading branches of the tree, from whence it distils in drops during the remainder of the day, until it is at length exhausted, in the same manner that we see water drip from the leaves of trees after a heavy shower of rain. This distillation is not peculiar to the Garse or Tîl, for the Bresas, which grow near it, likewise drop water; but their leaves being but few and narrow, the quantity is so trifling, that though the natives save some of it, yet they make little or no account of any but what distils from the Tîl, which together with the water of some fountains, and what is saved in the winter-season, is sufficient to serve them and their flocks. This tree yields most water in those years when the Levant, or easterly winds, have prevailed for a continuance; for by these winds only the clouds or mists are drawn hither from the sea. A person lives on the spot near which this tree grows, who is appointed by the council to take care of it and its water, and is allowed a house to live in, with a certain salary. He every day distributes to each family of the district seven pots or vessels full of water, besides what he gives to the principal people of the island.

Whether the tree which yields water at the present time, be the same as that mentioned in the above description, I cannot pretend to determine; but it is probable there has been a succession of them; for Pliny, describing the Fortunate island, says,—“In the mountains of Ombrion are

trees resembling the plant *ferula*, from which water may be procured by pressure. What comes from the black kind is bitter, but that which the white yields is sweet and potable."

Trees yielding water are not peculiar to the island of Hierro, for travellers inform us of one of the same kind on the island of St. Thomas, in the bight or gulph of Guiney. In Cockburn's Voyages, we find the following account of a dropping-tree, near the mountains of Vera Paz, in America. "On the morning of the fourth day we came out on a large plain, where were great numbers of fine deer, and in the middle stood a tree of unusual size, spreading its branches over a vast compass of ground. Curiosity led us up to it; we had perceived, at some distance off, the ground about it to be wet, at which we began to be somewhat surprised, as well knowing there had no rain fallen for near six months past, according to the certain course of the season in that latitude; that it was impossible to be occasioned by the fall of dew on the tree, we were convinced, by the sun's having power to exhale away all moisture of that nature, a few minutes after its rising. At last, to our great amazement, as well as joy, we saw the water dropping, or as it were distilling, fast from the end of every leaf of this wonderful (nor had it been amiss if I had said miraculous) tree; at least it was so with respect to us, who had been labouring four days, through extreme heat, without receiving the least moisture, and were now almost expiring for the want of it.

We could not help looking on this as liquor sent from Heaven to comfort us under great extremity. We caught what we could of it in our hands, and drank very plentifully of it, and liked it so well, that we could hardly prevail with ourselves to give over. A matter of this nature could not but excite us to make the strictest observations concerning it, and accordingly we staid under the tree near

three hours, and found we could not fathom its body in five times. We observed the soil where it grew to be very stony; and upon the nicest enquiry we could afterwards make, both of the natives of the country and the Spanish inhabitants, we could not learn there was any such tree known throughout New Spain, nor perhaps all America over; but I do not relate this as a prodigy of nature, because I am not philosopher enough to ascribe any natural cause for it; the learned may perhaps give substantial reasons in nature for what appeared to us a great and marvellous secret."

Annual Register, 1764, p. 115.

ACCOUNT OF AN
EXTRAORDINARY DROUGHT,
ON THE ISLAND OF SUMATRA.
BY WILLIAM MARSDEN, ESQ.

THIS phenomenon was observed in the year 1775; the S.E. or dry monsoon, set in about the middle of June, and continued with very little interruption till the month of March in the following year. So long and severe a drought had not been experienced there in the memory of the oldest man. The verdure of the ground was burnt up, the trees were stripped of their leaves, the springs of water failed, and the earth every where gaped in fissures. For some time a copious dew falling in the night, supplied the deficiency of rain; but this did not last long, yet a thick fog, which rendered the neighbouring hills invisible for months together, and nearly obscured the sun, never ceased to hang over the land, and add a gloom to the prospect already but too melancholy. The Europeans on the coast suffered extremely by sickness; about a fourth part of the whole number being carried off by fevers and other bilious distempers; the depression of spirits which they laboured

under, not a little contributed to hasten the fatal effects.—
The natives also died in great numbers.

In the month of November that year, the dry season having then exceeded its usual period, and the S.E. winds continuing with unremitting violence, the sea was observed to be covered, to the distance of a mile, and in some places a league from shore, with fish floating on the surface.—Great quantities of them were at the same time driven on the beach or left there by the tide, some quite alive, others dying, but the greatest part quite dead. The fish thus found, were not of one, but various species, both large and small, flat and round, the cat-fish and mullet being generally the most prevalent. The numbers were prodigious, and overspread the shore to the extent of some degrees; of this I had ocular proof or certain information, and probably they extended a considerable way farther than I had an opportunity of making inquiry. Their first appearance was sudden; but though the numbers diminished, they continued to be thrown up, in some parts of the coast, for at least a month, furnishing the inhabitants with food, which, though attended with no immediate ill consequences, probably contributed to the unhealthiness so severely felt. No alteration in the weather had been remarked for many days previous to their appearance. The thermometer stood as usual at the time of the year, at about 85°.

Various were the conjectures formed as to the cause of this extraordinary phenomenon, and almost as various and contradictory were the consequences deduced by the natives from an omen so portentous; some inferring the continuance, and others, with equal plausibility, a relief from the drought. With respect to the cause, I must confess myself at a loss to account for it satisfactorily. If I might hazard a conjecture, and it is not offered as any thing more, I would suppose, that the sea requires the mixture of a due proportion of fresh water to temper its saline quality, and enable

a certain species of fish to subsist on it. Of this salubrious correction it was deprived for an unusual space of time, not only by the want of rain, but by the ceasing of many rivers to flow into it, whose sources were dried up. I rode across the mouths of several perfectly dry, which I had often before passed in boats. The fish, no longer experiencing this refreshment, necessary, as it would seem, to their existence, sickened and perished, as in a corrupted element.

Phil. Trans. Vol. 71, p. 383.

FIGURES IN A WOMAN'S EYES.

February, 1764. A woman was then living at Buch, near Versailles, the iris of whose eyes was divided into 12 sections, forming an exact dial, the figures resembling those on the small watches that are included in rings to wear on the finger. She was born with this peculiarity, and yet has the perfect use of her sight.

Annual Register, 1764, p. 54.

A WHITE NEGRO.

May, 1764. M. Castillion laid before the Royal Academy at Berlin, an authentic account received from Surinam, of a negro perfectly white, born of a father and mother of the blackest hue; and also of a whole family of negroes, not far from the town of Parimaribo, born with four fingers without a thumb, and whose feet assumed, where the toes usually begin, the form of a lobster's claw.

Annual Register, 1764, p. 78.

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MONS^{RS} GARNIERIN,
And his Extraordinary Descent in a Parachute
Sep^r 21st 1802.

Published October 6th 1814 by N. S. B. by D. Landon. House No. 1, St. Pauls.

tion, all that constitutes the wealth of one of the first cities in the world. The use of these machines was prohibited in France, and the Consular Government confided to me alone the direction of night balloons, which I conceived and introduced into the national fêtes.

“ Convinced of the direction of the wind, I hastened the filling of the balloon, and at 5 P.M. I filled the pilot balloon, which Mrs. Sheridan did me the honour to launch.— It seemed to me that I was conciliating the favour of Heaven, by the interference of the Graces. This pilot balloon ascended quickly, and was soon out of sight, marking my career towards the north-east. While the anxious crowd were following the path of my little pilot, I suspended the parachute to the balloon: this painful and difficult operation was executed with all possible address, by the assistance of the most distinguished personages. The parachute was gradually suspended, and the breeze, which was very gentle, did not produce the least obstacle. At length I hastened to ballast my cylindrical bark, and to place myself in it; a sight which the public contemplated with deep interest; it seemed at that moment as if every heart beat in unison; for, though I have not the advantage of speaking English, every one understood my signs. I ascertained the height of the barometer, which was at 29 inches and a half. I now pressed the moment of my departure, and the period of my fulfilling my engagements with the British public. All the cords were cut; I rose amidst the most expressive silence, and launching into infinite space, discovered from on high the countless multitude that sent up their sighs and prayers for my safety. My parachute, in the form of a dome over my head, had a majestic effect. I quickened my ascending impulse, and rose through light and thin vapours, where the cold informed me that I was entering into the upper region. I followed attentively the route I was taking, and perceived I had reached the extre-

mity of the city, and that immense fields and meadows offered themselves for my descent. I examined my barometer, which I found had fallen to 43 inches. The sky was clear, the moment favourable, and I threw down my flag, to endeavour to shew the people assembled that I was on the point of cutting the cord that suspended me between Heaven and Earth. I made every necessary disposition ; prepared my ballast, and measured with my eye the vast space that separated me from the rest of the human race. I felt my courage confirmed by the certainty of my combinations being just. I then took out my knife, and with a hand firm, from a conscience void of reproach, and which had never been lifted against any one but in the field of victory, I cut the cord. My balloon rose, and I felt myself precipitated with a velocity which was checked by the sudden unfolding of my parachute. I saw that all my calculations were just, and my mind remained calm and serene. I endeavoured to modulate my gravitation, and the oscillation which I experienced, increased in proportion as I approached the breeze that blows in the middle regions : nearly ten minutes had elapsed, and I felt that the more time I took in descending, the safer I should reach the ground. At length I perceived thousands of persons, some on horseback, and others on foot, following me ; all of whom encouraged me by their wishes, while they opened their arms to receive me. I came near the earth, and, after one bound, I landed, and quitted the parachute without any shock or accident. The first person that came to me pressed me in his arms ; but, without losing any time, I employed myself in detaching the principal circle of the parachute, anxious to save the instrument that so well guaranteed me ; but a crowd soon surrounded me—laid hold of me, and carried me in triumph, till an indisposition, the consequence and effect of the oscillation I had experienced, obliged the procession to stop. I was then seized with a painful vomiting, which I

usually experience for several hours, after a descent in a parachute. The interval of a moment, however, permitted me to get on horseback; a numerous cavalcade approached to keep off the crowd, whose enthusiasm and transports incommoded me not a little.—The Duke of York was among the horsemen, and the procession proceeded with great difficulty in the midst of the crowd, who shouted forth their applause, and had before them the tri-coloured flag, which I had thrown down, and which was carried by a Member of Parliament. Among the prodigious concourse of persons on foot, I remarked Lord Stanhope, from whom I received the counsels of a scientific man, and who penetrated through the crowd to shake hands with me.

“At length, after several incidents, all produced by the universal interest with which I was honoured, I withdrew from the crowd, without any other accident, than that of having had my right foot jammed between the horse I rode, and a horseman who pressed too close to me. My parachute was preserved as well as could be expected; a few of the cords only were cut.

“Among the congratulations I have had the honour of receiving from the most distinguished persons, I have not had any more flattering than those from Sir Sydney Smith, who came to me, with General Douglas, on purpose, as he said to me, to shake hands with a brave man. This compliment is of the greatest value, from the mouth of one of the bravest soldiers in Europe.

“I now enjoy the pleasure of having fulfilled my engagements with the public, to whom I owe every acknowledgment and thanks, for the encouragement I have received from them.

“GARNERIN.”

According to Mr. Garnerin's calculation, he had been to the height of 4154 French feet. The balloon fell on

the next day, near Frindsham-mill, three miles beyond Farnham, in Surrey.

Much wonder was excited by the first ascension of a man in a balloon; but surely the descent of a man from an exalted balloon to the earth, without harm, is far more wonderful; it is however, an experiment as daring as it is terrific!

INTERESTING SKETCH OF THE LIFE AND ECCENTRICITIES
OF THE LATE

REV. ISAAC GOSSET, D. D. F. R. S.

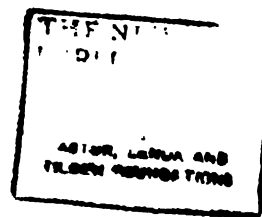
DR. GOSSET, son of Isaac Gosset, (whose family had long distinguished itself in the art of modelling in wax), was born in Berwick-street, opposite the French chapel, in the year 1744. He was educated at Dr. Walker's, in Mile-end, where he learned the rudiments of the Latin, Greek, Hebrew, and Arabic languages, with great rapidity and extraordinary success. At an early age, he evinced an astonishing retention, recollecting with ease the date of any particular person's birth, and the various dates of books. He laughed heartily at Osborn's *Latinity*, in his *vermibus exorus*, for *erosus*, and *Liber fumosissimus*. The delicacy of Dr. Gosset's constitution, and the tenderness of his frame, prevented his growth, and checked his fair proportion; but did not depress his spirits, or curb his imagination. Whilst his school-fellows were amusing themselves with marbles, trap-ball, and the like, little Isaac was bending over a new collection of folios, quartos, and duodecimos, fresh imported, and marking all those which had *editio opt.* after them: thus he acquired a perfect knowledge of the best editions of his favourite books. On leaving Dr. Walker's seminary,

he was consigned to Dr. Kennicott, at Exeter college, and placed under Mr. Hinton, a tutor of great celebrity.

Gosset had not been long at the university, before he found out Fletcher, in the Turl, and Dan. Prince, opposite the Clarendon. To these gentlemen he paid frequent visits, and astonished them with his premature, and under-graduate knowledge of editions. His good humour, communicative temper, and social disposition, made him welcome in every staircase. Having advanced in his academical career, and taken his first degree, he left Oxford; but returned to be made Master of Arts, and again to have a Doctor of Divinity's hood, for which he went out grand compounded.

Dr. Gosset lived in Newman-street, and preached at Conduit Chapel. As a preacher, he was greatly admired, for his delivery was elegant, his language fine, and his arguments forcible. Before he became D. D. he married the daughter of Mr. Hill, a timber-merchant, with a fortune of 6000*l.*, who fell in love with him for his preaching. On account of his diminutive size, he was obliged to be elevated in the pulpit, upon two hassocks: during one of his sermons, he slipped off, and was missed, for some minutes, by the congregation.

The Doctor was a cheerful companion, full of life and animation, having always some pleasant anecdote to relate. Soon after his marriage, he set up his chariot; and when he became a father, he was exceedingly proud of exhibiting his son. His politics were highly in favour of liberty: he has been heard to declare, that he should be happy to see Pitt dug up again and hanged. At home, he took particular care nothing should be wasted; the following anecdote will serve to shew his economy. Being once desirous of having some alterations and repairs about his house, he sent for the surveyor and carpenter. The former gave his opinion, and the carpenter received orders to begin; but to his great surprise, the doctor brought him a large quantity of old crooked



anced himself so ill, as to keep his bed for two or three days, and went blubbering about the town, to every person who deigned to listen to him, the probable injury it might do him in his business. Yet this very man could wantonly sport with the feelings of so respectable a character as Dr. Gosset, and publicly exhibit two caricatures he had caused to be engraved, under the title of a PRETTY COPY, and the effigies of an old friend in a new BEAVER !”

Dr. Gosset had worn a cocked hat for many years ; but after the appearance of the first print, “ A Pretty Copy,” he changed the three-cornered one for a round hat. However, on the appearance of the second print, he did not gratify the author by another change, through the persuasions of his friends, who advised him not to quit the sales, as he had determined, but to keep his ground, as the ridicule would soon die away. Indeed the Doctor’s dress was always the same.

The Doctor was uncommonly communicative and instructive, not only in the titles and contents of books of all denominations, of what they were worth, what they had sold for, and what they would bring at Christie’s, Leigh’s and Lochee’s ; but in what they contained, in numberless instances, that was not announced on their backs, and what they ought to have, to be perfect and complete. He knew also the private marks of different booksellers, and could tell how they valued their property at ten or twenty years, when the same article returned into their hands. He had seen great revolutions in books and buyers ; In his time, the first Psalter, of 1481, was sold at Wilcox’s, to Mr. Jackson of Leicester, for 5s. and resold to Dr. Askew, for five guineas, and at Dr. Askew’s sale for sixteen. He had seen Dr. Farmer give 5s. 9d. for Painter’s Palace of Pleasure, and the same book resell for twenty guineas. The Doctor was extremely hurt with Isaac Herbert, nephew of William Herbert, editor of Ame’s Topography, for the

prodigal dispersion of the invaluable library of the black letter store, which had been treasured up at Cheshunt, in Hertfordshire, from the time Mr. Herbert retired from public business, on the destruction of his shop and warehouse, at London-bridge, by fire. This library contained a greater variety of scarce works, by the early printers, than could be found in any of the most noted in the kingdom; and the scattering of those works gave the Doctor great uneasiness.

The subject of this memoir was always ready to assist his friends with his valuable advice in the purchase of books; and as he bought largely for himself, whenever an article by accident or design was run up to an unconscionable price, he would whisper to the disappointed man, "I have a duplicate of that book, and you shall have it for what it cost me." Every such book he brought the next day to the sale, with generally this remark:—"I told you so much; but I find it was less." The Doctor was however anxious for all the best editions, and whenever there was one knocked down to him, he would tell some of those who had bid, that he had another copy of the book which should be at their service for their own money; by these means he got shut of his inferior editions.

Classical and theological books were the Doctor's favourites. When the library of the late Mr. Richard Forster, jeweller, of Richmond-buildings, Soho, was announced to be sold, Doctor Gosset told his son and executor, Richard Forster, whom he had known by his attending sales to bid for his father during his illness, that he did not think he should be the purchaser of any of the books, as they chiefly consisted of scarce plays, and similar productions. He was, however, liberal of his advice to this young man—"Never think of marriage," said he, "and if the thought should occur, take down a book and begin to read until it vanishes." He conjured him never to be without books,

and if he had no room for them to erect a shelf on the staircase. The Doctor was likewise ready to assist every young man when first entering trade, by his salutary warning to prevent him from being taken in.

The eccentricities of Dr. Gosset were truly harmless: when unemployed, he used to set one leg over another, (for no man had a more delicately shaped leg), and pick out every little particle that made his stocking uneven, taking the utmost pains to remove any flue or dust. So exceedingly attached was he to his library, that when it was to be moved, he worked and fretted himself almost to death; and when carried away, he actually sat on the steps, and cried like a child, for fear any of his best editions might be damaged.

Though he purchased no plays, as already hinted, he was not averse to the play-house. He went to see the corpulent Stephen Kemble perform Falstaff, at the new theatre-royal, Drury-lane; but having left the boxes, "he had lost himself," as he expressed it, "having gone into a private room, among several ladies; and had he not been fortunately conveyed out of the strange room by a friend, he could not have guessed the consequences that might have ensued." It may indeed be said, that the managers of the London winter theatres, have, in erecting them, studied *private*, as well as public amusement.

To theological learning, the Doctor's attention during his latter years, had been principally directed, and in the department of Biblical criticism, his erudition was accurate and profound. Preferment he never courted, and never acquired. It was well observed of Dr. Gosset, by the learned translator of Epictetus, that in his happier hours of social intercourse, the disadvantages of his person were forgotten in the graces of his conversation.

Dr. Gosset contributed his assistance to Bowyer's "Critical Conjectures on the New Testament;" but this is the

only literary work his name is attached to. It is probable, that a fastidiousness respecting his productions withheld him from publishing them ; or else by deferring continually the completion of his designs, they finally failed of execution. It is certain that he had made considerable progress in a work of "Annotations on the Greek New Testament ;" but the public have to regret that he did not live to finish it.

As the Doctor had secluded himself from society a short time before his death, it was suspected that he laboured under some domestic uneasiness. A friend, who had missed him for some time, called upon him, but found him very much dejected. He died suddenly, in Newman-street, December 16, 1812. He left behind him two sons and one daughter : his eldest son is a distinguished preacher, and his younger son, (who had obtained a prize medal at the university of Cambridge), has been bred up to the law. One of the Doctor's sons used to call in the carriage for his father, when he was at a sale, and sometimes his wife.

Doctor Gosset having had a handsome fortune left him by his own father, which, like his father, he improved by dabbling in the stocks, was enabled to leave his sons 50,000*l.* each, and his daughter 20,000*l.*

We shall conclude this article with the following poetical effusion, which appeared in the Gentleman's Magazine, for February, 1813, entitled,

THE TEARS OF BOOKSELLERS.

When Gosset fell,
Leigh rang his knell,
And Sotheby 'gan to vapour ;
For I've been told,
That folios sold
Indignant for waste-paper.

The trade all swear,
They're in despair,

At so severe a crisis ;
For all agree,
"Twas only he
Supplied the town with prices.

Shop, stall, and shed,
Lament him dead,
And blubber o'er his carcass,
Ah me, the day !
Cries sad Lochee,
Ah me ! replies the Marquis.

Words are but faint,
The woes to paint,
Of Maltby and of Relham.
Payne sobs and cries,
And Cuthell's eyes
Are big as tears can swell 'em.

Not classic Lunn,
Nor Jeffery's fun,
Nor Evans' first appearance,
No means were found
Could bring him round,
And give him a rehearance.

Then learn all ye,
Who visit Leigh,
To buy, or to be bought in,
You 'll soon or late,
Share Gosset's fate,
And your own lot be caught in.



A PETRIFIED BEEHIVE.

ACCOUNT OF A PETRIFIED BEEHIVE, DISCOVERED ON THE
MOUNTAINS OF SIOUT, IN UPPER EGYPT.

BY MR. LIPPI, LICENTIATE IN PHYSIC OF THE ARMY OF PARIS.

M. LIPPI found, on those mountains, at the entrance of a vast cavern, a body of real stone, of an irregular figure, but quite porous, which he had the curiosity to open. He was very much surprised to see the whole divided into oval cells, of three lines in breadth, and four lines in length, placed all manner of ways about each other, but no where communicating, all of them lined with a very thin membrane, and what was more wonderful, each inclosing a maggot, or a fly, perfectly like a bee. The maggots were very hard and very solid, and might pass for petrified; but the flies were only dried up, and well preserved as ancient mummies; and small oval grains, which appeared to be eggs, were often found under them. There was at the bottom of many of the cells, a thick juice, blackish, very hard, appearing red, when exposed to the light, very sweet, making the saliva yellow, and inflammable as resin. It was, in short, real honey; but who should ever think of finding honey in the bosom of a stone?

M. Lippi conceives that this was a natural hive, which at first had been formed in a loose, light, and sandy earth, and afterwards was petrified by some particular accident. The animals that inhabited it were surprised by the petrification, and, as it were, fixed in the state they were then found. Their dried up mucosity had formed the membrane that lined the cells. At the time when the hive was yet soft, the bees went out of it to seek their food, and made their honey in it.

Still seeking, in the same place, other particulars to clear

up this fact, M. Lippi found, in several parts, the beginning of a like hive. It was, as it were, the first bed, formed of a number of little cells, for the most part open, and containing the animal in all its different states, but dried up, and very hard, as well as the hives. He saw besides, on one of the first beds, a second, composed of a heap of little hillocks, of about five lines in height, and an inch in diameter at their base. They were grainelike, easily reducible into dust, and nearly resembled the hills thrown up by the moles. M. Lippi opened them, by striking gently against them, and found in every one of them two or three oval cells, filled with a yellow maggot, and full of juice, which occupied them entirely. It is easy to conceive, that on a first bed, once formed, several others are also formed, which constitute the whole hive. But how are these beds formed? Whence comes the earth they are constructed of? Does the animal carry it thither, and how does he carry it, and in so great a quantity? This is not yet known; time alone can make us acquainted with this branch of knowledge.

Annals Register, 1767, p. 117.

RECOVERY OF SPEECH.

EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF HENRY AXFORD, WHO HAVING BEEN DUMB FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS, RECOVERED THE USE OF HIS TONGUE, BY A FRIGHTFUL DREAM.

RELATED BY THE REV. MR. ARCHDEACON SQUIRE, F.R.S.

HENRY AXFORD, son of Henry Axford, of the Devises, in Wiltshire, an attorney, when a child, was subject to convulsion fits, which followed him pretty frequently till he was about 25 years old; he perceived a hoarseness coming on him, which was soon after attended with all the symp-

toms of a common cold, till in about six days after his first seizure, he became quite speechless, not only losing the articulate use of his tongue, but being scarcely able to make the least noise with it. His cold soon went off in the usual manner, and he got quite as well in health as ever he had in his life; but still continued absolutely speechless. He had advice from all the neighbouring physicians, but to no purpose; for nothing they did could restore him to the former use of his tongue.

He continued in this dumb way about four years; till one day, in the year 1741, he got very much in liquor, so much, that on his return home at night to Devizes, he fell from his horse three or four times, and was at last taken up by a neighbour, and put to bed in a house on the road. He soon fell asleep; when dreaming that he was fallen into a furnace of boiling wort, it put him into so great an agony of fright, that struggling with all his might to call out for help, he actually did call out aloud, and recovered the use of his tongue from that moment, as effectually as ever he had it in his life, without the least hoarseness remaining, or alteration in the old sound of his voice, as near as can be discerned. And so it continued ever after.

Phil. Trans. Vol. 45, p. 148.

SUDDEN DARKNESS AT NOON.

AUGUST 19, 1763, about twelve at noon, the sky, for several miles round London, was overcast in such a manner, that the darkness exceeded the great eclipse in 1748, greatly resembling that which preceded the last great earthquake at Lisbon. The darkness was occasioned by a black sulphureous cloud, which arose in the north-west, and attended with lightning, hail, rain, and wind, drove furiously over

London, and then discharged itself chiefly in the county of Kent; where, in rapidity and fierceness, the storm resembled a tornado, so as to kill fowl, sheep, and in twenty parishes destroyed all hopes of any kind of crops. After the storm, the hail and rain formed so complete a jelly, that it was difficult to walk on it: the hail-stones measured from two to ten inches in circumference, and some that remained till September 4th, measured four inches and a half round: some of the stones were globular, others like flat pieces of ice, frozen together, heaps and ridges of them lay by the hedges, three and four feet deep. The most surprising circumstance that attended this phenomenon, was the sudden flux and reflux of the tide in Plymouth Pool, exactly corresponding with the like agitation in the same place, at the time of the great earthquake at Lisbon. The storm made such an impression on the ignorant populace, assembled to see a criminal executed at Kennington-common, that the Sheriff was obliged to apply to the Secretaries of State for a military force, to prevent a rescue, so that it was near eight o'clock in the evening before he suffered.

Annual Register, 1763, p. 96.

THE BLACK-HOLE AT CALCUTTA.

INTERESTING NARRATIVE

Of the sufferings of the persons who were confined in the prison called the Black-hole, in Fort William, at Calcutta, in the kingdom of Bengal, after the surrender of that place to the Indians, in June, 1756.

THE ill conduct of Drake, the Governor of Calcutta, who had, among other things, unjustly imprisoned a very considerable merchant of the country, whose name was Omychund, and who was a Gentoo, having drawn the resentment of the Viceroy upon the Factory, he marched against it

in person, with a very considerable force, and laid siege to the fort.

Drake, who had brought on this misfortune, no sooner saw it approach, than he deserted his station, and left the gentlemen of the factory and the garrison to shift for themselves. As soon as Drake was gone, Mr. Holwell, from whose letter to William Davis, Esq. this account is taken, took the command upon himself, and resolved to defend the place as long as he could. This voluntary opposition of Mr. Holwell incensed the Viceroy against him; and supposing that he would not have undertaken a work of supererogation, attended with such fatigue and danger, upon disinterested principles, he made no doubt but that there were very great treasures in the fort, in which he was deeply concerned as a proprietor; he therefore pushed on the siege with great vigour, and gained possession of the fort about five o'clock in the evening of the 20th of June, 1756.

The number of men then in the fort was 145. One Leech, who had served the Company as a smith, and was the parish clerk, made his escape through a private passage, with which very few were acquainted, when the Moors first entered the fort; and 144, being all the rest, were made prisoners of war. Mr. Holwell was thrice sent for, and examined by the Viceroy, before seven o'clock; the last time the Viceroy sat in council, and when he dismissed his prisoner, he repeated the assurance, that he had before given him, declaring on the word of a soldier, that no harm should come either to him or to his people. He ordered, however, that they should be secured for that night, and they were immediately committed to the custody of some subordinate officers called Jemmutdaars.

In order perfectly to understand the sequel of this account, it is necessary to describe that part of the fort where the prison called the Black-hole, is situated.

The east windows of the governor's apartment look into

a pretty spacious court of guard, on the west side of which, over against the windows, and under the eastern curtain of the fort, there is a piazza; at the south end of the piazza there is a flight of stairs, that lead up to one of the bastions of the fort, and at the north end is the garden within the piazza there are barracks for the soldiers, that reach all along the side of the square, with a platform reaching the whole length of these barracks, for the soldiers to sleep on, and they are open towards the piazza, with arches that correspond to the arches of the piazza. Between these arches there is a small parapet wall, which goes from arch to arch, the whole length of the barracks, and divides them from the piazza, but they are not divided into separate apartments within. At the southernmost end of the barracks, and in a line with them, is a room about 18 feet square, which was used as a kind of a tomb-house, for confining such of the soldiers as had been guilty of any irregularity; this place, which is a continuation of the barracks, is closely walled up on the north, east, and south sides, and is open only on the west side, towards the piazza; in this side there are two windows, strongly secured by iron bars, and the dungeon being close and dark, was called the Black hole. To the north, without the court of guard, was the armoury and laboratory, and to the south, the carpenter's yard, belonging to the factory.

The guard that received charge of the prisoners ordered them all to sit down under the piazza, and soon after, one of the soldiers stripped Mr. Holwell of his waistcoat, as he was sitting without his coat, which the heat of the weather would not permit him to wear. While they were waiting to be farther disposed of, as their new masters should think fit, they discovered that the factory was in flames on each side of them, the armoury and laboratory to the left, and the carpenter's yard to the right. They were alarmed at this unexpected conflagration, and it was the prevailing opinion,

that, notwithstanding the Viceroy's promise to Mr. Holwell, there was a design formed to suffocate them between the two fires. At about half an hour after seven, this dreadful apprehension was confirmed, by the appearance of several people with lighted torches, who ran into all the apartments to the right of them, under the eastern curtain, as it was supposed, to set them all on fire. But Mr. Holwell, at the request of some gentlemen who were near him, going up to see what was really doing, found that the men with torches, being strangers to the fort, were only seeking a place to confine them in till the morning. Soon after he had satisfied his friends that their fears of being burnt were groundless, he was surprised by the appearance of Leech, who escaped through the private passage. This man having, in many instances, been obliged by Mr. Holwell's kindness, determined not to escape himself, without attempting to bring off his benefactor; having returned into the fort, at the risque of his life, he told him, in a few words, that he had provided a boat, and that if he would follow him through the private passage, by which he had entered, he would insure his deliverance. Mr. Holwell was most sensibly affected by this instance of heroic generosity; but the Viceroy having assured him that the prisoners should suffer no personal injury, and the gentlemen and garrison having put themselves under his protection, he thanked Leech in the best terms he could, but told him he did not think himself at liberty to desert his friends, and therefore could not possibly accept his offer. To which Leech gallantly replied, that he would then live and die with him; and though Mr. Holwell urged him many times to provide for his own safety, he persisted in his resolution, and could not be prevailed upon to leave the place.

Very soon afterwards, part of the guard that had been drawn up on the parade, with the officers, who had been viewing the rooms by torch-light, advanced towards the pri-

soners, and ordered them to rise and go into the barracks. This command they obeyed with great cheerfulness and alacrity, pleasing themselves with the hopes of passing the night very comfortably on the platform ; but they were no sooner within the barracks, than the guard advanced to the inner arches and parapet wall, and, with their musquets presented, ordered them into that part which was walled in at the south end, called the Black-hole. The greater part of the prisoners were utterly unacquainted with the place into which they were about to be driven, and those before being urged on by those behind, upon whom the guard pressed with clubs and scymetars, were borne forward, and entered the cell before they knew the horrors of their situation, to avoid which, they would have turned upon the guard and been cut to pieces, as the least evil of the two.

The number that entered this dreadful place was 146, of which 145, including poor Leech, were men, the other was a lady of the country, the wife of Mr. Carey, an officer in the navy, who declared, with equal tenderness and constancy, that no circumstances of distress or danger should divide her from her husband.

These unhappy wretches, of whom 69 were Dutch, English corporals, soldiers, Moors, whites, and Portuguese, were all exhausted by the fatigue and watching which they had suffered during the siege ; many of them were wounded, and the wounds of several of them were mortal.

Among the first that entered was Mr. Holwell, with Mr. Coles and Mr. Scott, who were ensigns in the service ; Mr. Holwell took possession of the window that was nearest to the door, and put Mr. Coles and Mr. Scott, who were both wounded, into it. Mr. Baillie, of the Council, and several other gentlemen of the factory, were near him ; the rest rushed by them into the inner part of the room, and those thought themselves fortunate who took possession of the other window.

It was now about eight o'clock, the night was exceedingly close and sultry, and there being no opening but to the west, the air within could neither circulate nor be changed. As soon as these particulars, and the size of the room, were known, the consequences were easily foreseen; every one was thrown into an agony of despair and terror, and many attempts were made to force the door, but as it opened inwards, and as the prisoners had nothing to work with but their hands, these attempts were as fruitless as they were violent. Mr. Holwell being at the window, was less affected by the closeness of the place, and as long as he could continue there, was in no danger of suffocation. His mind was therefore proportionably less agitated, and perceiving that the perturbation, restlessness, and struggles of the rest would exhaust their strength, increase their heat, and hasten their destruction, he conjured them, in a short but earnest address, to keep both their minds and bodies as quiet as possible, as the only chance they had of surviving till the morning should give them liberty and air. This address produced a short interval of peace and silence, which, however, was interrupted by the groans and complaints of the wounded, some of whom were even in the agonies of death.

At this time Mr. Holwell looking through the grate of the window into the piazza, saw one of the *Jemautdaars*, in whose countenance he thought he discovered some traces of compassion. This man he called to him, and representing the misery of himself and his fellow-prisoners, and the frightful consequences that would inevitably follow their continuing in that room all night; he then earnestly entreated, that he would endeavour to get them separated, by putting half of them in some other place; and to quicken his compassion by self-interest, he told him, that if he could procure the favour that he requested, he should in the morning receive a 1000 rupees, which are equal to 250*l.* sterling.

The Jemmutdaar promised that he would attempt it, and withdrew, but returned in a few minutes, and said it was impossible. Mr. Holwell then thought that he had not offered enough, and therefore promised him 2000 rupees. Upon this he withdrew again, but soon returned a second time, and with great appearance of compassion said, it could not possibly be done without an order from the Viceroy, who was then asleep, and that nobody dared to awake him. It is, however, difficult to conceive how this could be true, if, as Mr. Holwell supposed, the Viceroy's orders were general, to keep the prisoners safely till the morning, and that the finding a proper place for the purpose was left to the Jemmutdaars, who, after this order was received, searched the apartments with torches, and at last fixed upon the Black-hole. But whatever was the impediment, the unhappy prisoners had neither means to know, nor power to remove it. Within ten minutes after they were locked in, every one fell into a most profuse sweat, which soon brought on an intolerable thirst, that perpetually increased in proportion as the body was drained of its moisture.

The floor of the place in which they were confined being 18 feet by 18 feet, contained 324 square feet, which divided by 146, the number of persons, gives a space of something more than 26 inches and a half by 12, for each person, which, reduced to a square, will be near 18 inches by 18 inches. This space, though it was sufficient to hold them without pressing violently on each other, yet it obliged them to stand so near together, as greatly increased their heat; it was therefore proposed that every one should pull off their clothes, as an expedient to increase the space between them. This proposal was immediately approved, and in a few minutes every man in the assembly, except Mr. Holwell and three others that stood at the window with him, were naked. This expedient afforded them a temporary relief, and to improve it, every one fanned the air with his hands,

in hopes to produce a circulation, and introduce fresh air from without. Of this exercise, however, they were soon weary, and their uneasiness increasing, it was proposed by Mr. Baillie, that every man should sit down on his hams. This also was complied with, and to prevent confusion, it was agreed that they should all sit down and rise together, at a signal to be given for that purpose. After they had sat till the posture became too uneasy to be longer endured, the word was given to rise; but as each covered much more ground in sitting than standing, they were so closely wedged together, that many efforts and considerable force was required to put them in motion, and raise them again on their feet. It happened also, that at this time several of them were so much enfeebled, that not being able immediately to recover their legs, they fell down, and there not being room to leave the space which they covered vacant, they were by a fatal necessity instantly trampled to death, or suffocated. The expedient of sitting down was, notwithstanding, many times repeated, and some of the number perished every time in the same manner as at first.

Such was the condition of these unhappy people before the first hour of their confinement was expired. By nine o'clock thirst had rendered the greater part of the company outrageous; new efforts were made to force the door, and many attempts were made to provoke the guard to fire in upon them, and to put an end to their misery, but without success. In a short time, many persons in the back part of the room were seized with a difficulty of breathing, and, what was yet more dreadful, a delirium. The place was filled with incoherent ravings, passionate exclamations, and cries of distress, in the midst of which, the cry of "water, water," was predominant. This cry being heard by the Jemautdaar, who had been applied to by Mr. Holwell, he ordered some skins of water to be immediately brought. Till this time, Mr. Holwell had remained quietly at the

window, where keeping his face between two of the bars, he suffered but little pain or inconvenience ; but he foresaw, that the bringing water to that window would create a strife and commotion among those that were behind, which would probably hasten their destruction ; and that then the whole crowd being drawn to press with one united effort upon him, would either crush him to death, or compel him to abandon his situation : he therefore made many attempts to forbid the bringing of water, but the clamour was so loud, that he was not regarded. The water appeared, but there was no other way of getting it into the prison but by pouring it into hats, and then forcing them through the bars of the window. By this method, all the people in the place might easily have been supplied, but the impatience of the crowd, few of whom were now under the government of their reason, was so great, that though Mr. Holwell and the two wounded gentlemen, who were in the window with him, brought hats full of water through the grate, with incessant labour, as fast as they could be filled, yet much the greater part was spilt in the contest that immediately ensued, and before it reached the lips of any of the competitors, there was not a spoonful remaining. As those at the windows were by this means still unsatisfied, those behind, to whom not a drop of water had yet reached, became frantic and furious beyond all conception. Several quitted the other window, and forcing themselves forward, with others from the inner part of the room, threw down and trampled to death many who were before them. They now pressed so hard upon Mr. Holwell and his friends, who received the water from the guard, that the two gentlemen who were wounded, and who, notwithstanding their condition, had hitherto worked with him, were crushed to death, and he himself, with his utmost effort, could scarce sustain the weight that pressed against him on every side.

This aggravation of their distress would have been soon

over, if the water that had been first ordered in mercy, had not been continued for sport. The wretches who had been ordered to bring it by the Jeminautdaar, perceiving the struggle and commotion that it produced, took care to supply it in great plenty, as fast as it was wasted, that they might be entertained by seeing it fought for ; and they held up lights to the bars, that they might lose no part of their inhuman diversion. As long as it was brought to the window, it was necessary for Mr. Holwell to hand it into the prison, and this labour he continued, without respite, from nine o'clock till past eleven. The place around him was then strewn with his friends, who had been either suffocated or pressed to death in the conflict, and were trampled upon by every corporal and foot soldier, who had strength enough to force his way to the window, and to whom he was obliged to hand water, as they stood on the dead bodies of his friends, who had fallen a sacrifice to their impetuosity and delirium.

Till this time they had preserved some deference for Mr. Holwell, as their chief and benefactor ; but all distinction was now at an end, and not content with pressing round him, they laid hold on the bars of the window over his head, and climbing up on his shoulders, he was so pressed and wedged up, that he was utterly unable to move, and found it impracticable to keep his station at the window any longer. He therefore called out to them, and begged, as the last instance of regard he should ever request, that they would remove the pressure that was upon him, and permit him to retire out of the window, that he might die in quiet. There needed no argument to induce them to make way for him to quit a place which every one wished to fill in his stead ; the people therefore that were next him gave way as far as they thought they could do it, without affording any advantage to those that were behind, and with much difficulty he forced his way into the centre of the prison. The num-

ber of dead, which was now near one-third, and the crowding of those that survived, to the windows, at both which there was still a supply of water, left this part of the prison comparatively empty; but the air was so putrid, and so filled with a strong, urinous, volatile effluvia, that his respiration became immediately difficult and painful.

Under the east wall, opposite the windows, there was a platform, being a continuation of that in the barracks, from which it was divided only by the north wall of the dungeon; it extended the whole length of the east side; it was raised about three feet and an half from the ground, and was about six feet wide. To the farther end of this platform, over against the innermost window, Mr. Holwell walked over the dead, with which the floor was now almost entirely covered; here he laid himself down, or rather leaned back against some dead bodies that were behind him, and determined in this posture to wait for his dissolution: but in about ten minutes he was seized with so violent a pain in the breast, and palpitation of the heart, that he could no longer suffer them, without attempting a relief, which he knew fresh air alone could give him. There were now five ranks between him and the opposite window, but his strength being doubled by his despair, he forced his way through three of them, and then seizing a bar of the window with one hand, he forced himself also through the fourth, so that there was then but one rank between him and the window. In a few moments his pain and palpitation ceased, but being now scorched with the same thirst which those had suffered who first called for water, he forgot that he would then have prevented the bringing of it, and called out himself for water, with the same clamorous impatience that the rest had done. The people who were next him, and nearly in the same situation as he was first in at the other window, had preserved their presence of mind, and in some degree their regard for him; as soon, therefore, as they heard him cry out "Water, for God's

sake!" they joined in the cry, and called out, "Give him water, give him water!" and when it was brought, they would not touch it till he had drunk. But though by this act of generous kindness, he had water in plenty, yet he found his thirst was rather increased than allayed, and therefore he would drink no more; however, to moisten his mouth, he sucked his shirt sleeves, which were kept continually wet by excessive perspiration, and found the expedient succeed beyond his hopes. He seemed to think that the moisture which he thus drained out of the linen allayed that thirst, which a constant supply of water rather increased; but it is probable, that the action of sucking contributed much more than the moisture that was sucked, to remove the sensation of burning thirst, by continually and gently pressing the salival glands, and thus furnishing the mouth and throat with a considerable degree of their natural moisture; for it can scarce be doubted, but that if the moisture contained in the shirt had been pressed out, and then swallowed, it would have been found as ineffectual as the more pure and plentiful supply from the spring. However, as he was observed to suck his shirt-sleeve with great satisfaction, by a young gentleman who stood next him, without a shirt, he began to suck the sleeve that was next him, without considering it as invasion of property. But Mr. Holwell, who, in these circumstances thought the man that robbed his shirt of its moisture, did him little less injury than if he had robbed his body of its blood, as soon as he discovered the theft, took care to work upon the same sleeve, till it was sufficiently drained, and then had recourse to the other.

It was not yet twelve o'clock, and all that survived, except the few at the windows, were in the highest degree ungovernable and outrageous; as they found no relief from water, they now called out for air, but air could not be procured. Every insult that could be devised was incessantly

repeated, to provoke the guards to fire into the prison, but without effect. Soon after the general tumult and uproar subsided at once, and the greater part of those who were then living, the last remains of vital strength being exhausted, lay down, and expired quietly on the dead. Some, however, there were, who made the same desperate and vigorous attempt to supplant Mr. Holwell, as he had just made to supplant others, and with the same success. A heavy man, who had found means to seize on the bars over his head, pressed him almost with his whole weight; a Dutch serjeant having climbed over several others, supported himself on one of his shoulders, and a black soldier bore very hard on the other. Self-defence is always lawful, and Mr. Holwell finding it impossible to sustain this load and live, often disengaged himself from the poor serjeant and soldier, by shifting his hold on the bars, and thrusting his knuckles into their ribs, but the man that hung over him by the bar, he found it utterly impossible to dislodge. Having suffered this pressure from half an hour after eleven till two in the morning, his spirits sunk, and his reason began to forsake him; he found it impossible to keep his station, and he could not bear the thought of retiring again to the inner part of the prison. In this dilemma he drew a clasp knife from his pocket, intending to put an end to his misery at once, but his resolution failing, or his reason once more gaining the ascendant over his passion, he put it up, and being determined to quit the window, at all events, his burthen being absolutely insupportable, he told Mr. Carey, who with his wife was in the rank behind him, his intention, and advised him to make an attempt to get into his place. Poor Carey expressed great thankfulness for the offer of what Mr. Holwell could not keep, but though he made the attempt to succeed him, he was supplanted by the Dutch serjeant, who has been just mentioned.

Mr. Holwell, whom Carey assisted in getting through

the press that was about the window, went forward among the inner ranks towards the south wall of the prison, where he laid himself down with Carey, and once more resigned himself to death. Carey died in a very few minutes, and he felt a stupor come on very fast, though he was sensible of no pain, and but little uneasiness of any kind. Before he quite lost his recollection he reflected, that if he died where he lay, he should be trampled upon as he had trampled upon others. This thought, however whimsical or superstitious, gave him some pain; he therefore got up once more, and, with some difficulty reached the platform a second time, where he soon after lost all sensibility; the last thing to which he was conscious was an uneasy sensation about his waist, supposed to be caused by a sash, which he therefore untied and threw from him.

There is no particular account of what happened from this time till day break, but it may reasonably be supposed, that it was only a continuation of the same scene of strife and distress. When the morning dawned, which was about five o'clock, no entreaty having yet prevailed to get the door open, one of the company thought of seeking for Mr. Holwell, hoping that now the night was past, his influence might procure their enlargement. Two of the company undertook the search, and after some time found him by his shirt, under the bodies of several that had died and fallen upon him after he became insensible. As he appeared to have some signs of life, they carried him to the window next the door, where there was now no longer so formidable a press, only 23 of 146 being alive, and many of them unable to stand. The window itself, however, was still full, and the stench of the dead bodies being grown intolerable, nobody would resign his station in favour of another; he was therefore carried back again, and once more deposited upon the platform. But soon after a gentleman, whose name was Mills, and who was afterwards captain of the

Company's yacht, having a seat in the window, generously offered to give it up for the common good, and Mr. Holwell was again brought forward, and placed in the seat which Mr. Mills had resigned.

About this time the Viceroy had received an account of the havock that death had made among the prisoners, but instead of sending instantly to preserve the few that remained, he coldly ordered an enquiry to be made, whether the chief was among the living or the dead. This enquiry was made at the window where Mr. Holwell had been seated, for the messenger had yet no orders to open the door, and the person he enquired after being shown him, and it being probable that if the door was soon opened he would recover, the messenger hastened back, and soon returned with an order to release them all.

As the door opened inwards, and as the dead were piled up against it, and covered all the rest of the floor, it was impossible to open it by any efforts from without, it was therefore necessary that the dead should be removed by the few that were within, who were become so feeble, that the task, though it was the condition of life, was not performed without the utmost difficulty, and it was twenty minutes after the order came, before the door could be opened.

About a quarter after six in the morning, the poor remains of 146 souls, being no more than three and twenty, came out of the Black-hole alive, but in a condition which made it very doubtful whether they would see the morning of the next day; among the living was Mrs. Carey, but poor Leech was among the dead. The bodies were dragged out of the hole by the soldiers, and thrown promiscuously into the ditch of an unfinished ravelin, which was afterwards filled with earth.

Mr. Holwell, Mr. Court, Mr. Walcot, and Mr. Burdet, were ordered into the custody of an officer, and the rest

were immediately set at liberty, except poor Mrs. Carey, whose youth and beauty caused her to be detained for the conqueror, or some officer of state.

Mr. Holwell when he came out of the prison was in a high fever, and not able to stand; he was, however, sent for, to be examined by the Viceroy, and was in this condition carried into his presence. It was some time before he could speak, but as soon as he was able, he began to relate the sufferings and death of his unhappy companions. The Viceroy, without taking any notice of this tale of distress, stopt him short, by telling him, that he had been informed there was treasure to a very considerable value secreted in the fort, and that if he did not discover it, he must expect no mercy. Mr. Holwell replied, that he knew of no such treasure; and then began to remind him of his assurance the day before, that no hurt should come either to himself or his friends: to this remonstrance he paid no more regard than he had done to the complaint, but proceeded in his enquiry concerning the treasure; and when he found no intelligence could be got, he ordered the general of his household troops, whose name was Mhir Muddon, to take charge of Mr. Holwell as his prisoner.

Among the guard that marched before Mr. Holwell, when he went out from the presence of the Viceroy, there was a man who carried a large Moratta battle-axe on his shoulder, which occasioned a report, first, that his head was ordered to be struck off, and afterwards that the sentence was executed.

It happened unfortunately, that Mr. Holwell, in the hurry and confusion of the siege, after the fort had been deserted by Drake, forgot to set Omychund, the black merchant, whom Drake had injuriously imprisoned, at liberty. This neglect Omychund resented as an act of wilful injustice, and Mr. Holwell was of opinion, that if it had not been for Omychund's insinuations, he should have been discharged

with the rest, notwithstanding the offence he had given to the Viceroy by defending the fort, and the notion that prevailed of his being privy to the concealment of money; and in this opinion he was confirmed by the confinement of the three gentlemen who were detained with him, who were all of them persons against whom Omychund was known to have conceived a particular resentment.

Mr. Holwell, and his associates in captivity were conveyed in a kind of coach drawn by oxen, called a hackery, to the camp, where they were loaded with fetters, and lodged in the tent of a Moorish soldier, which being not more than four feet by three, they were obliged to lie, sick as they were, half in and half out the whole night, which happened to be very rainy; yet the next day their fever happily came to a crisis, and boils broke out on every part of their bodies, which, though they were extremely painful, were the certain presages of their perfect recovery. The next day they were removed to the coast, and by order of General Mhir Muddon, were soon after sent by sea to Maxadavad, the metropolis of Bengal, to wait the Viceroy's return, and be disposed of as he should farther determine.

At Maxadavad they arrived after a voyage of 13 days, in a large boat, in which they had no better provision than rice and water, and no softer bed than some bamboos laid on the bottom timber of the vessel; they were, besides, exposed alternately to excessive heat and violent rains, without any covering but a bit of old mat and some scraps of sacking. The boils that covered them were become running sores, and the irons on their legs had consumed the flesh almost to the bone.

When they arrived at Maxadavad, Mr. Holwell sent a letter to Mr. Law, the chief of the French factory, with an account of their distress; and Mr. Law, with great politeness and humanity, sent them not only clothes, linen, provision, and liquors, in great plenty, but money.

About four o'clock on the 7th of July they landed, and after marching a considerable way as a spectacle to the multitude that thronged round them, they were deposited under an open shed, not far from the palace.

In this place they received every possible relief, not only from the great kindness of the French and Dutch chiefs, but the Arabian merchants.

On the 18th of July the Viceroy arrived, and the prisoners then learned that he had enquired for them, in order to set them at liberty before he left Calcutta, and was offended with Mhir Muddon for having so hastily removed them to Maxadavad. He did not, however, order their immediate discharge when he arrived, which it is natural to suppose he would have done, if they had been detained in custody contrary to his inclinations.

On the 15th they were conducted to the palace, to have an audience, and to know their fate, but they could have no audience that day, which, as it happened, was a favourable circumstance, for at night the Viceroy's grandmother solicited their liberty, at a feast, to which she was invited on his safe return, and the Viceroy promised that he would release them on the morrow.

On the morrow, about five in the morning, they were waked, and told that the Viceroy would, in a few minutes, pass by to his palace of Mooteejcel. Upon this intelligence they got up, and when the Viceroy came in sight, they paid him the usual homage, and uttered their benediction aloud. He looked at them with strong marks of compassion in his countenance, and ordering his litter to stop, he called them to him, and having heard a short extemporary petition, which was spoken by Mr. Holwell, he made no reply, but ordered two of his officers to see their irons instantly struck off, and conduct them safely wherever they chose to go, giving them a strict charge to see that they suffered no injury or insult by the way.

This act of mercy, however late, or from whatever motive, was the more meritorious, as great pains were taken by some time-serving sycophants to prevent it: they told the Viceroy, that Mr. Holwell, notwithstanding his losses, was still possessed of enough to pay a considerable sum for his freedom; to which the Viceroy nobly replied, "If he has any thing left, let him keep it; his sufferings have been great, and he shall have his liberty."

Mr. Holwell and his friends being thus dismissed, immediately took boat, and soon after arrived safe at the Dutch settlement at Corcemabad, where he afterwards embarked for England.

WONDERFUL COURAGE AND DEFENCE OF JOHN GREEN,

AGAINST THE RIOTOUS COAL-HEAVERS, WITH THE TRIAL OF JOHN GRAINGER, DANIEL CLARK, RICHARD CORNWALL, PATRICK LYNCH, THOMAS MURRAY, PETER FLAHARTY, AND NICHOLAS M'CABE, FOR SHOOTING AT HIM; (CONTRARY TO THE STATUTE), ON THE 21ST OF APRIL, 1768.

JOHN GREEN, living at the bottom of New Gravel-lane, Shadwell, deposed, that he was employed as deputy agent under Mr. William Russel, who, as agent appointed by Mr. Alderman Beckford, was concerned in the execution of the Act of Parliament for regulating coal-heavers; that before this, they were under the direction of Justice Hodgson, and revolted from the coal-undertakers, insisting first, upon 16*d.* a score, and then 18*d.*, but at last, would have nothing to do with the undertakers, and would have their price under the Act of Parliament; that Mr. Russel and the deponent had fixed upon an office at Billingsgate, for registering the coal-heavers, but none of them came there, alleging they were under the direction of Justice Hodgson, to whom only they would apply; that the deponent was sent with a

complaint to the Justice by Mr. Russel, desiring a meeting with him, which he excused, as he would send his clerk; and further told him, that if Mr. Russel did not desist, he would give him a pretty dose at Westminster-hall. However, in a few days afterwards he advertised for men to come, but they would not come to his office, and therefore were put in the gangs; that Dunster, Justice Hodgson's clerk, having seen the deponent at Billingsgate, he brought to his door no less than 3 or 400 of these men, a great many of whom threatened they would pull down his house, or they would do for him; that the deponent went to the Mansion-house to acquaint the Lord Mayor of the danger he was in, and received for answer, that he must be directed by some Magistrate in his neighbourhood; that on Saturday morning, the 16th of April, the coal-heavers having put up some bills, a neighbour's servant went and pulled one down, upon which the coal-heavers cried out, that Green's maid had pulled down their bills, and then they directly came running from different parts to his door, to the amount of 100 and upwards. The purport, the deponent said, of these bills, was a libel on Mr. Alderman Beckford, and what was done was Mr. Russel's own doing.—The acts of violence committed by the coal-heavers against this deponent, best appear from his own words.

“I asked them,” said he, “what they wanted with me?” they cried, ‘they would have my life if I offered to meddle with any of their bills;’ I said I had not meddled with any, nor none had that belonged to me; one of them cried, ‘he shall have a bill put up against his own window;’ he took up a handful of dirt, and put it upon the window, and put the bill upon it; another of them laid hold of my collar, and dragged me off the step of my door; another said, ‘hawl him into the river;’ said another, ‘we will drown him.’ I got from them, and retreated back into my house. After that I went to Billings-

gate, and met several of them there ; there they threatened they would have my life. When I came home, I saw a great many of these people running from their different habitations, some with bludgeons, or broomsticks, and weapons of that sort ; they did not collect themselves in a body, but were running to the head of New Gravel-lane ; I believe about 4 or 500 of them, came within 200 yards of my house ; they went to Mr. Metcalf, a neighbour of mine, and threatened him ; there was one of them that was a pretended friend of mine, that had promised, when he knew any thing against me, he would let me know : I sat up to guard my house, and I sent my wife and children out of the house ; after, I prevailed upon my wife to stay in the house, upon this man's intelligence ; he came about twelve, and told me nothing was intended against me ; that they had done their business they were about ; I went to bed and was asleep ; I was awaked by my sister-in-law, calling ' Mr. Green, Mr. Green, for God's sake, we shall be murdered,' this was about one o'clock on the Sunday morning ; I jumped out of bed, and ran into the next room, where my arms were ; I took and levelled one, and said, ' you rascals, if you do not be gone, I will shoot you ;' they were then driving at my doors and shutters, the noise was terrible, like a parcel of men working upon a ship's bottom : I could compare it to nothing else ; I fired among them ; I believe I fired about fourteen times, and when I had not any thing ready to fire, I threw glass bottles upon them ; they were at this time about a quarter of an hour, when they all dispersed. On the Monday, I went to Billingsgate about eleven ; I saw several of them there who threatened me. Dunster was there also ; they told me they would do for me, if I did not desist from my proceedings, which was to register such people as applied ; there were always some of the coal-heavers about Dunster ; he talked of the advertisements that had been in the paper, and said they were mine ; for he said Mr. Russel

had told him he totally declined having any thing to say in it, and it was my doing only ; I said, ' do not deceive these men, that is very wrong of you ; ' I asked him, if Mr. Russel did not tell him he would advertise to this effect ? I began to be afraid, and, as many of them came about me, I left them.

" Nothing happened after, till Wednesday night, that was the 20th, about seven in the evening ; then I saw a great many of these coal-heavers assembling together, about 3 or 400 yards from my house, going up Gravel-lane. I shut up as fast as I could, and told my wife to get out of the house as fast as she could with her children ; accordingly, she went away with the child that was asleep in the cradle ; Gilberthorp was in the house drinking a pint of beer, (I did not know his name then) ; said I, ' brother Tarpawling, (he is a seafaring man), I am afraid I shall have a desperate attack to-night, from what I have heard ; will you stand by me, and give me all the assistance you can ? ' ' Yes,' said he, ' that I will.' When the house was secured, backwards and forwards, I went up stairs ; some stones had broke some windows there ; I believe some of them had thrown stones and run away ; I heard them call out, ' Wilkes and liberty ; ' I saw the neighbours lighting up candles ; I said to my maid, ' for God's sake, take and light up candles, for these people shall have no occasion at all to use me ill.' I went to the window, and begged of them to desist, and said, if they knew any thing particular of me, I was ready to resolve any thing they wanted to know. Seeing I could not defend myself, I disguised myself, and put on an old watch-coat and a Dutch cap, and went down stairs, in order to get a magistrate to come and prevent my house from being pulled down ; I had one Dunderdale, a shoemaker, that lodged in my house, he went down with me ; when I came down to the back door, I heard them threaten they would have me and my life ; I then found it impossible to get out of the house ; I ran up stairs then,

fully determined to defend myself, as long as I was able : I spoke to them again in the street from the window, and desired them to tell me what I had done : they called out in the street they would have me and hang me over my sign post ; others said, they would broil and roast me, and words to that effect ; stones came up very fast. I then took a brace of pistols from the table and fired among them, loaded with powder only ; after that I kept firing away among them, what arms I had loaded, with bird and swan-shot ; they dispersed in the front then ; I immediately ran backwards, they were heaving stones in to the back chamber windows ; I fired from the back chamber windows, after I had fired some few rounds backwards, they desisted from heaving stones into the back part of the house, but I did not find they had left the place. I was again attacked both in the front and back part of the house ; I fired among them sometimes from the front of my house, and sometimes from the rear ; I imagined they would have broke into the house presently, if I had not kept a warm fire upon them : I heard them call out several times, I am shot, I am wounded ; still they said they would have me, and do for me. I had various attacks in the night : I saw no fire-arms they had till eleven or twelve in the night ; they were driving at the door about ten, but I cannot tell with what ; I looked through the door, and saw their hands moving, driving something hard against it. About twelve they fired into the house, both in the front and the rear ; the balls struck the ceiling in the room where I was, sometimes close over my head ; as they were in the street, and I in the one-pair of stairs, the balls went into the ceiling and dropped down on the floor ; I could not walk about the room with any safety, I was forced to place myself by the wall between the windows, and sometimes I would crawl under the window to the next, and sometimes I stood behind the brackets ; then I would stand up, and drive among them like dung ; I have seen their balls strike

the ceiling as I have stood under the cover of the wall, and as I have been going to fire, they have come over my head, and some lodged in the ceiling.

The firing continued all the night and all the morning, at different periods.

When I attacked them backwards, I used to crawl out of the window on my belly, and lie upon the wash-house leads with my arms; I have heard them say, you that have arms are to fire upon him, and you that have stones are to heave, and so many to break the door, and so many to climb the wall; if they got up there they could get in at the window from the leads; I had Gilberthorp below to guard the door, for part of the front door was broke. I got off, I believe about nine in the morning, when I had no more ammunition left, only the charge that I had in my blunderbuss, except what was in the musket, that would not go off; so I said to the men that were in the house, you see they are firing from every quarter, there is no help for me, they will come in, and I can make no return upon them to check their insolence; the best way to make them desist, is for me to get out of the house, you will all be very safe, whether I make my escape or not; Mr. Gilberthorp said, do what you think best; I said, they only want me, if they get me it is all over, or if they know I am gone, they will desist: I took my blunderbuss over my arm, and my drawn hanger in my hand, and went out of the back window upon the leads; I saw several of them in the alley, I levelled the blunderbuss at them, and said, you rascals, be gone, or I will blow your brains out, especially you, (that was to one under me), but I scorn to take your life; he said, God bless you, Mr. Green, you are a brave man, he clapped his hand on his head, and ran away; I went over into Mr. Mereton's ship-yard; one of the shipwrights saw me; just as I jumped, he said, Mr. Green, follow me; he took me to a saw-pit, and shewed me a hole at the end, where the sawyers used to put their things; he

said, go into that hole, you will be safe enough; said I don't drop a word but that I am gone over the wall; I got in; he left me; there I lay till the Guards came; I heard the mob search for me: some said he is gone one way, some another; they were got into the yard; I heard one of the shipwrights say, he is gone over the wall, and gone away by water.

When the Guards came one of the shipwrights came to me, and desired to know what I should do; I said, go and tell the Officer to draw his men up, and come into the yard, and I'll surrender myself to him; the soldiers came, and I came out of the saw-pit; I had nothing but my handkerchief about my head; I had been wounded between ten and eleven at night; I surrendered myself to the Officer. Justice Hodgson said, Mr. Green, you are one of the bravest fellows that ever was: whom do you intend to go before, me, or Sir John Fielding? I said, I do not care who it is; then said he, you will go before me; accordingly we went, and when I came there, he committed me to Newgate.—In the course of this evidence it does not appear, that the deponent swore to the identity of any of the prisoners, as engaged in the act of firing against, or otherwise assailing his house, though he did to some few of them threatening him at Billingsgate; but this identity was sworn to by the next evidence, George Crabtree, in the persons of Cornwall, David Clark, or Clary, Lynch, Flaharty, and Grainger. The first he saw fire several times towards Green's windows; Clark he also saw fire after Green had shot his brother; Grainger he saw heaving a stone, or brickbat, at Green's windows, and Lynch with a musket in his hand, but did not see him fire. Robert Anderson swore to Clark's and Cornwall's firing several times, as did also Andrew Evenerus to Clark's firing. Thomas Cummings swore to the same as committed by Flaharty, Clark, Lynch, Cornwall, and Murray, and he particularly accused Flaharty of getting into his own house, and firing

out at his garret windows. Philip Oram, and William Burgess, corroborated the same as to Cornwall, and the latter saw M'Cabe and John Grainger firing, knowing their persons but not their names. M'Cabe asked him for his sleeve buttons to load a piece with, to fire at Green, and moreover examined his coat, and wanted to feel in his pocket for something to load: M'Cabe also enquired in the house, where he, the deponent lodged, for the pewter spoons, and pots, to cut them in pieces for shot, saying he would pay for them. There were several other evidences to prove the identity of the prisoners as concerned in this riot. Some of the prisoners declared their innocence of the charge; others said they were there with the design of keeping the peace, and preventing the escape of Green, who had been guilty of murder, by firing out of his windows. Several appeared to their character, but all seven were brought in guilty, death, and were executed the 26th of July, pursuant to their sentence.

PROOFS THAT THE COMPOSITION OF

GÜNPOWDER

WAS KNOWN BEFORE THE REPUTED PERIOD OF ITS DISCOVERY.

THE invention of gunpowder is generally ascribed to a German Monk of the fourteenth century. The annexed extracts, however, from a work written by our countryman Roger Bacon, who flourished about the year 1270, prove that he was no stranger to its composition, and that he was well acquainted with several other contrivances of a similar nature. The progress made by this genius, beyond all his contemporaries, in the study of natural philosophy, caused him to be accused of magic, and on that account to be excommunicated by the Pope.

This ingenious philosopher knew so well how to reduce the powers of nature within the rules of art, as by their

combination to perform things which far surpassed the pretended miracles of the magicians. He demonstrated by experiments that human industry, with an insight into nature, can produce effects which they with all their charms, sorceries and invocation of demons, are unable to imitate. He exposed with admirable ingenuity the monstrous superstitions, and enthusiastic notions of the times in which he lived; and judiciously distinguished between the sacred mysteries of piety, and the ridiculous chimeras and inventions of an unsettled brain, between the corruptible principles of the body, and the celestial origin of the soul; between Nature and God.

The subjoined extracts are taken from a copy of Roger Bacon's works, preserved in the British Museum, and presented to that establishment by his present Majesty.

“ We may have an artificial composition of saltpetre, and other ingredients; or of the oil of red petrolei (*oleum rubrum petroleum*) and other things, or with maltha, naphtha, with such like, which will burn at what distance we please, with which Pliny reports, *lib. ii. chap. 104*, that he kept a city against the whole Roman army: for by casting down *maltha* he could burn a souldier, though he had on his armour. In the next to these we may place the Grecian fire, (*ignis græcus*) and other combustibles. To proceed, lamps may be made to burn, and waters to keep hot perpetually. For I know many things which are not consumed in fire, as the salamander's skin, palk, with others, which by some adjunct, both are inflamed and shine, yet are not consumed, but rather purified. Besides these, we may speak of divers admirable peeces of art; as the making thunder and lightning in the air; yea, with a greater advantage of horror, then those which are onely produced by Nature. For a very competent quantity of matter, rightly prepared, (the bignesse of one's thumb) will make a most hideous noise and corruscation; this may be done several

wayes; by which a city or army may be overcome, much after the fashion as *Gideon* overcame that vast army of the *Midianites*, with three hundred men, by the breaking of their pitchers, and shining of their lamps, together with the sudden leaping forth of the fire, and inestimable cracklings. These would appear strange, if they were designed to their just height both of proportion and matter. I might produce many strange works of another kind, which, though they bring no sensible profit, yet contain an ineffible spectacle of wit, and may be applied to the probation of all such secrets as the ignorant crew will not embrace. Such might I name the attraction of iron to the loadstone, a thing so incredulous, as none, save an eye-witnesse, would believe. And in this attraction of iron, experience will show a diligent searcher, more wonders than any vulgar capacity can entertain."

REMARKABLE EFFECTS OF, AND PRESERVATION OF A YOUTH
DURING, AN

EXTRAORDINARY GUST OF WIND.

In the afternoon of Monday, July 25, 1768, there happened an extraordinary gust of wind, a few miles to the north-west of Cleobury, in Shropshire; its effects were most remarkable in the parish of Stoke St. Milborough, where it unroofed the dwelling-house, barns, stables, and every other building belonging to farmer Bishop, one of which was entirely levelled with the ground; in his orchard it destroyed upwards of sixty apple and pear-trees, which are either broke off in the butt, or forced up by the roots; several large elm, and poplar-trees, were likewise blown down. He computed the damage he had sustained at 300*l*. His son, a youth of 16 years of age, being in the fold, was lifted four or five yards above the surface of the ground, and carried to the distance of eighty yards; part of the space

was over a fish-pond, a hedge, and a stone-wall, and falling gradually in a field of hay, received but little hurt.

WONDERFUL PRESERVATION

OF NINE PERSONS, WHO WERE SEVEN DAYS BURIED IN A
COAL-PIT.

ON the morning of Tuesday the 10th of August, 1813, the undermined works of a coal-pit at Bradley fell in, immuring nine men and boy, at a depth of 54 yards. Though the whole of them were given over as lost, it was resolved to make a road to them, from an adjoining pit, by cutting through the solid coal nearly 70 yards, in an horizontal direction. The work was immediately begun, and continued night and day, until about one o'clock on Monday week, when it was completed. A great number were constantly employed in clearing away, but one man only at a time could work at cutting with the pick, and was relieved about every half hour. It providentially happened that, a short time prior to the accident, there had been a fall of the roof in that part of the pit, which formed a kind of bank, upon which all of them, except one man, climbed and secured themselves from the ill effects of the sand and water.

Nearly from the time the work was begun, the striking of the pick was heard by these poor creatures, which induced them to exert themselves, and endeavour to cleanse a head-way, which was known to them in the direction in which the miners were cutting, and they actually cleared six yards of sand, with only a small board, about eight inches square, to carry it away upon: they also endeavoured, by thumping at intervals against the coal, to give a signal and direction to the workmen, but it was not heard until four o'clock on Monday morning, and at the same time a voice was distinctly heard to say, "Go to the left."—This animated the workmen to, if possible, more vigorous exertions, and at the time before named, the pick struck through, and was

suffered to remain a short time, in order that the air might be communicated sparingly, and to give time for putting out the candles, to prevent explosion, if any inflammable air had been contained in the inside. As soon as a sufficient opening was made, a cup of gruel was, by direction of the medical gentlemen present, administered to each, when they were removed towards the shaft of the pit, where beds were prepared, into which, after being rubbed, they were put for two hours. They were then attended in a coach to their houses, and we are happy to add, they all recovered, after having been enclosed seven days in the bowels of the earth, during which time the only sustenance they received, was a little water which they caught in a small iron pan. Never were anxiety and humanity more conspicuously displayed, than they have been on the present occasion, by all ranks; and the highest praise is due to Samuel Fereday, Esq. and many other eminent coal-masters, for their personal superintendence, during great part of the time: to almost every ground-bailiff in the vicinity, for their active exertions and advice; to the many medical gentlemen who so promptly and humanely attended; and to the workmen, for their indefatigable and unwearied perseverance. On Wednesday evening, the dead body of John Keeling, who was unfortunately killed by the above accident, was dug out of the pit.

EARLY FEELINGS OF HONOR.

ON Saturday morning, the 24th March, 1804, a foreign gentleman, a friend of the Prince De Conde, who resided at Wansted House, Essex, attended before Sir Richard Ford, at the Public Office, Bow-street, to give information that a young gentleman, of the name of Etienne Du Cas, a relation of the Prince De Conde's, had received a letter from a gentleman, whom he did not know, calling him "a coward," and making use of a deal of abusive language; and con-

cluded with challenging him to fight with pistols on Saturday afternoon. The latter acknowledged he was unknown to the party he was addressing by name; but stated that he would be in the ride in St. James's Park, at five o'clock on Saturday afternoon, mounted on a bright bay horse, with a white handkerchief in his hand; and on their meeting, would adjourn to a proper place to fight. The letter concluded with stating the writer's address to be "Edward Stephenson, Esq. No. 50, Great Ormond-street."

In consequence of this information, Sir Richard Ford issued warrants against the challenger and the foreign young gentleman. Rivet and Parkes, the officers, were dispatched in pursuit of the challenger; and Baker, the patrol, after the challenged, to his residence at Laytonstone in Essex.

On Saturday evening, about eight o'clock, Etienne Du Cas, attended by his relation, the Prince De Conde, and a friend, appeared before Aaron Graham, Esq. the sitting magistrate, in the custody of Baker, the patrol; but the other party had not arrived. The magistrate investigated the business of the parties present, and discovered that they had a knowledge of each other by sight; and the dispute was acknowledged to be about an amour. Mr. Graham then observed, he should not like to detain Mr. Du Cas in custody, and asked his friend if he had any objection to enter into a recognizance, that Mr. Du Cas should not break the peace, by being provoked to fight by Mr. Stephenson, which was agreed to, and was about to be taken by the clerk; when, lo! a *Lilliputian mighty hero*, who had caused so much alarm, entered the office, in the custody of Rivet and Parkes, to the no small amusement of every one present—even the magistrate could not resist laughing—for he proved to be a school-boy, and a mere child, only fourteen years of age, but dressed in the extreme of fashion, as a Bond Street loungee, with a very thick neckcloth, his shirt collar up to his ears, and only about three feet two inches

high : on his being placed by the side of Mr. Du Cas, who is about seventeen years of age, and near five feet eight inches high, it was impossible for a burlesque scene, of a similar circumstance, in a pantomime, to have a more ludicrous appearance. After the magistrate had recovered from his astonishment, at the appearance of the infant before him under these circumstances, he examined Master Stephenson as to the challenge sent Mr. Du Cas, which he denied to be written by him, but acknowledged it was sent by two elder boys, who were at Chigwell School with him, and they signed his name by his consent. The offence given by Mr. Du Cas was, that he had been on a visit in the neighbourhood of Chigwell School, and had paid some attention to a Miss H——n, whom Master Stephenson *fancied* himself enamoured with.

The magistrate gave the youth a very proper but severe reprimand ; and told him, if he did not make a very sufficient apology to Mr. Du Cas, he would commit him to prison. This seemed to have the desired effect upon him, and he appeared sensible of his folly ; he expressed his sorrow, but Mr. Du Cas very handsomely said there was no occasion, and gave him his hand, and forgave him.

Mr. Graham said, he should send for Masters George Leath and Joseph Harris, who had assisted in manufacturing the letter, and should hold them to bail to keep the peace.

Captain Mitchell, a brother-in-law of Master Stephenson's, attended him to the office ; and Mr. Graham addressed him, and said, he hoped Master Stephenson's father would pay the expences of the gentlemen, who had been brought a number of miles out of the country, by the folly and imprudence of his son, and satisfy the officers for their trouble ; both of which the Captain assured the magistrate should be complied with.

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